Water Voice Project
For the Third World Water Forum

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Mekong River Commission

March 2003
Water Voice Project in Cambodia

Water Voice Project was one of the activities of the 3rd World Water Forum in 2003. The objective was to create a database of opinions, comments, and ideas on water issues from the grassroots people in line with the 3rd World Water Forum principle: “Participation of all people, not only the professionals, but also the grassroots from the remote areas”. The Water Voices were collected by the Water Voice Messengers from over the world and were entered into the Water Voice Database. This data was an important input as a basis for all discussions pertaining to the 3rd World Water Forum, through the Virtual Water Forum, World Water Action Report, Regional Conferences and other Water–related International Conferences.

The Mekong River Commission cooperated with the Secretariat of the 3rd World Water Forum as Water Voice Partner Organisation. Ms Solieng Mak, Mr Kamoto Minoru, and Mr Chea chan Thou¹ (Ministry of Environment, Cambodia) collected the water voices in Cambodia as a Water Voice Messenger. Fortunately, Ms Solieng Mak got the prize at the 3rd World Water Forum for her productive effort to collect and analyse the voices.

This document consists of 225 voices collected during March 2002 to February 2003 from the 22 provinces in Cambodia. The 3rd World Water Forum completed successfully in March 2003. However, our effort to understanding and overcoming water problems is succeeding continuously. This document is the milestones of the effort. We hope it will contribute to make the better future of Cambodian people.

After this First Collection, we plan for the Second Collection during May 2003 and May 2004.

March 2003

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Places of Water Voice Collection

2. Battambang: Aek Phnom, Sangke, Moung Russei, Rattanak Mondul, Battambang district
4. Kampong Chhnang: Chol Kiri, Rolea B’ier,
5. Kampong Speu: Thpong, Samrong Tong, Kong Pisei, Phnom Srouch
6. Kampong Thom: Stoung, Prasat Sambour, Kampong Svay, Stung Sean
7. Kampot: Chum Kiri, Kampot Town
8. Kandal: Koh Thom, Kean Svay, Mukh Kampul, Kandal Stung, Saang, Khsach Kandal, Ta Khmau, Ponhea Lueu, Ang Snoul
9. Kep: Kep town
10. Koh Kong: Peam Krasaub, Koh Kong town
11. Kratie: Sambour
12. Oddor Meanchey: O’Smach
13. Pailin: Pailin City
14. Phnom Penh City
15. Preah Sihanouk Ville: Prey Nop, Stung Hav
16. Preah Vihear: Tbaeng Meanchey
17. Prey Veng: Kampong Trabaek, Prey Veng, Kampong Leav, Peam Ro
18. Pursat: Pursat town, Veal Veng
19. Siem Reap: Banteay Srei, Kralanh, Siem Rap town, Angkor Thom,
20. Stung Treng: Se Sean, Siem Bouk, Stung Treng
22. Takeo: Bati, Kirivong, Tram Kak
I. BANTEAY MEANCHEY PROVINCE

BMC1
Date of collection of “Water Voice”* 12 June 2002
Region and country where you collected “Water Voice” CAMBODIA * Khum Ruessei Kraok, Mongkol Borei district, Banteay Meanchey province
Voice Senders: Adult
Gender of “Voice Senders: Female
Occupation Type of “Voice Senders”: House worker
Key words: Water and Health, pollution

Title: Water and Health and Water Pollution

We are living along the Mongkol Borei River in Ruessei Kraok commune, which is located downstream of Mongkol Borei town. Usually our villagers have access to water from the river for all use. Many years ago we had no problem with the water quality, but now things have changed. In the last few years, the river’s water has been polluted due to the waste water discharged, waste disposal and human waste from the villagers who are living in Mongkol Borei town. Along this river, many houses, building or toilets have been built inside the river and they discharge everything into the river. This problem stems from the poor management from local authorities. We, people who are living downstream are calling for the local authorities to solve these problems as soon as possible.

BMC2
Date of collection of “Water Voice”* 10 July 2002
Region and country where you collected “Water Voice”: CAMBODIA* Phnom Srok, Samroung and Kravahn district, Bantheay Meanchey, Oudar Meanchey and Pursat province
Voice Senders: Elderly, Adult
Gender of “Voice Senders: Male, Female
Occupation Type of “Voice Senders”: Agriculture, Major of city
Key words: Drought

Title: Drought

This year, we have a serious drought that has prolonged from dry season to the wet season and still continues before the small dry season (late July to early August) is forthcoming. This natural disaster is affecting all the farmers and gardeners in the country due to the climate change and environment. Villagers in some provinces that are located in the west part of the country such as Phnom Srok district (Bantheay Meanchey); Samrong district (Oudar Meanchey) and Phnom Kravahn district (Pursat) are organising ceremonies for "calling" the rainfall. The call for rainfall ceremony is a traditional ceremony that villagers used to do in the extremely drought year for long time ago. In the ceremony, the villagers go to apologise the Buddha or tutelary spirit statues and then carry them to place into the lake or pond. For so doing we believe that the statues will be helped to call for rainfall from the Rainy God.
**BMC3**

Date of collection of “Water Voice”* 10 July 2002  
Region and country where you collected “Water Voice” * CAMBODIA * Ta Baen village, Commune/district Svay Chek, Bantheay Meancheay province  
Voice Senders: Elderly  
Gender of “Voice Senders”: Male  
Occupation Type of “Voice Senders”: Village Leader  
Key words: Drought  

**Title: Drought**  
We are people living in Svay Chek district, Bantheay Meancheay province who have suffered a serious water shortage this year. Now it is a wet season, normally this is raining time and is the time for agricultural production, but everything is changing. Because of prolonged dry season up to the wet season, our villagers have to do some praying for rainfall and for a good harvest.

Long time ago, if we had serious drought in our area traditionally we organise a ceremony to pray for rainfall. This can be done by catching a cat and put it inside the cage, then pour water on the cat to make it crying. Other way the farmers tied some clothes in the rice field for calling rainfall.

**BMC4**

Date of collection of “Water Voice”*14 August 2002  
Region and country where you collected “Water Voice” * CAMBODIA, South-eastern Asia/ Srok Phnom Srok, Bantheay Meancheay province.  
Voice Senders: Adult  
Gender of “Voice Senders”: Male  
Occupation Type of “Voice Senders”: Public officer  
Key words: Drought, Ecosystem  

**Title: Drought and Ecosystem**  
Trapeang Thmor Water Basin is one of the Wildlife Sanctuaries. At present, the water remains about 4.5 million cubic meters in it only. This reduces from about 67 million cubic meters as total amount of water during the wet season. This problem stems from the facts that serious drought in this wet season let many farmers to discharge the water from this basin to irrigate their paddy fields.

Decreasing water volume and water surface is impacting on the ecosystem in this area. From day to day, many hundreds of people are fishing to catch seldom large fishes in the basin. Normally, the water basin is a place for stork, water bird and other birds to find their food. Now, they have no place to find their food because they afraid of fishing activities and they will die due to hungry.

**BMC5**

Date of collection of “Water Voice”* 20 August 2002  
Region and country where you collected “Water Voice” * CAMBODIA, Region/Area: * Bos Sbov commune, Serei Saophoan district, Bantheay Meancheay province  
Voice Senders: Adult  
Gender of “Voice Senders”: Male  
Occupation Type of “Voice Senders”: Village leader  
Key words: Drought
**Title: Drought and Immigration**

Every year those Cambodian farmers who are living in some provinces along the Thai border, and in other provinces of the country are leaving their homeland to the capital city or other places to find jobs because they need food to support their family. The reasons for this are that there is severe drought and they could not cultivate their crops.

**BMC6**

Date of collection of “Water Voice” *21 August 2002*
Region and country where you collected “Water Voice” *CAMBODIA* Trabaek village, Bos Sbov commune, Serei Saophoan district, Banteay Meanchey province
Voice Senders: Adult
Gender of “Voice Senders”: Female
Occupation Type of “Voice Senders”: Agriculture
Key words: Climate Change

**Title: Climate Change and Immigration**

In the last few years, the villagers have immigrated to Thailand to find new jobs. This year we had severe drought from the beginning of the wet season. We tried to spread rice seeds on prepared land, but it was damaged due to lack of water. It is hopeless to spread rice seed on the dried soil again and again, and waiting for the rainfall. So we decided to immigrate to Thailand again for selling the labor. Normally in this time some farmers could harvest their early wet season rice crop, but now we harvested nothing. Some villagers sold their animals such as cattle and every thing that they have to buy food.

The above problems are caused by the climate change, which leads to severe drought, flood, pest, etc. that impact on agriculture, and therefore on the livelihood of the rural people.

**BMC7**

Date of collection of “Water Voice” *10 January 2003*
Region and country: *Southeast Asia* CAMBODIA/ O Chreuov, Paoy Paet, Banteay Meanchey province
Who is “Voice Senders”? Adult
Gender of “Voice Senders”: Male
Occupation Type of “Voice Senders”: Public officer
Key words: Pollution, river/river basin management

**Title: The O’Chreuov River is Polluted by Wastes**

O Chreuov is a small natural river at the border between Cambodia and Thailand. Currently, the river is looked like a small-polluted wastewater canal, because the people who are living in that area have thrown their wastes into it. At the place where a bridge (Cambodia-Thailand Friendship Bridge) crosses it, one can smell stinking water from the river.

For long time ago in the past, the water in this river was clean and could be used for drinking, but now the water is seriously polluted. The Cambodian popular song which describes about the beauty of this river with very clear water, can prove the realities in the pass, but now such realities is not existed any more. The question is, could the healthy system of the river be brought back again? The local authorities should take some actions to prevent and reserve the river for our next generation.
Title: Water Scarcity is Impacting the Learning of School Children

Children who are living in water scarcity areas are always busy to collect and carry water for daily use in their families. The shortage of water is affecting their learning times and quality of school children. According to the primary school’s teachers said that the quality of learning of their pupils are falling down during the month of February, March, April and May compared to the previous months that had enough water. Because some pupils have spent a lot of times to collect and transport water from very far water sources to support their families every day.

Sok Chea Lida, female, 5th grades of Phum Sreh Primary School said that I go to collect and transport water many times a day to fulfill 3 big barrels which could be used only in a day. My other family’s members are busy during the dry season, because early morning they go out and come back late evening, so the housework especially collecting water is my duty. Often I couldn’t go to school or sometimes come to school late. My study is falling down so my teacher blamed me but I do not have choice.
II. BATTAMBANG PROVINCE

**BB1**
Date of collection of “Water Voice”* 10 June 2002
Region and country where you collected “Water Voice” * Southeast Asia, CAMBODIA * Lot Beung Preak #2, Aek Phnom, Battambang province
Voice Senders: Adult
Gender of “Voice Senders:” Male, Female
Occupation Type of “Voice Senders”: Agriculture, Fisherman
Key words: Water security, Ecosystems

**Title: Water Security and Ecosystem**
We are people in Aek Phnom district who are living along fishing lot Boeung Preak No 2. Normally, in the dry season, the water’s level is very low before the wet season comes, but that is a natural problem and does not cause serious issues to the remote people who face the natural event every year.

In the last summer this year, many people who are living along the lake have suffered a water shortage because the owner of the fishing lot No 2 pumped water from the fishing lot to catch fishes. The pumped water from the fishing lot seriously impact on the people livelihood and will lose many natural fish species in the future.

All people in this area are suggested to the fishing lot’s owner not to do the same activities for the next summer.

**BB2**
Date of collection of “Water Voice”* 26 July 2002
Region and country where you collected “Water Voice” * Southeast Asia, CAMBODIA * Baset village, Sangke district, Battambang province
Voice Senders: Elderly
Gender of “Voice Senders:” Female
Occupation Type of “Voice Senders”: Agriculture
Key words: Drought, Flood

**Title: Drought and Floods**
Several consecutive years of poor rice harvests due to droughts and floods and an impending severe drought in the countryside could force an increase number of villagers to migrate illegally to Thailand to seek work, for this year. Already farmers and most of the young men are beginning to go to Thailand to work in sweatshops or casava or sugar plantation but they earn an average of $2 per day, half of the wage that Thai workers normally command. Life for Cambodian migrants in Thailand is not easy.

**BB3**
Date of collection of “Water Voice”* 2 August 2002
Region and country where you collected “Water Voice” * CAMBODIA, Region/Area: * Prey Svay Commune, Moung Russei district Battambang province
Voice Senders: Elderly
Gender of “Voice Senders:” Male
Occupation Type of “Voice Senders”: Agriculture
Key words: Ecosystems
Title: Ecosystem
Lake “Tum Lenge” is a natural lake, which contains water all year round. The lake is located along the National Road No 5 in Prey Savy Commune, Moung Russei district, Battambang province. The Tum Leng Lake is one of the famous lakes that involve the Khmer Legend. Long time ago, there was a lot of forest around the lake where many wild animals lived in it, and there were a lot of fish living in the lake. In that time the local people believed that the lake was miraculous and they were afraid to catch the fishes and aquatic animals for any purpose. Nevertheless, now every thing is changing, almost all the forest, wild animals, fishes and aquatic animals were destroyed due to the human activities such as deforestation, over fishing and hunting with the modern tools.

BB4
Date of collection of “Water Voice” * 21 August 2002
Region and country where you collected “Water Voice” • CAMBODIA, South East Asia * Roluos village, Moung Russei commune, Moung Russei district, Battambang province
Voice Senders: Adult
Gender of “Voice Senders: Female
Occupation Type of “Voice Senders”: Agriculture
Key words: Droughts, Rain-fed farming

Title: Drought and Rain-fed Farming
I am a farmer and live in Moung Russei, Battambang province. Twenty days ago our rice seedlings were turning red, preparing to die. Luckily, last week, rain fell and the rice plant became green again. But this small amount of water will not keep the rice crop alive until harvesting time. I am very worried that the rice plants will not flourish into a good crop. Even there will be more rain next month, it will be too late to support the crop.

Many farmers have given up their fields and turned instead to other less water-thirsty crops to feed their families. A stopgap measure that may help in the short term, when there will not be food surplus for the next dry season. The farmers will not have rice seeds for the next planting season.

This year Cambodia has been impacted by a severe natural disaster that scientists call ENSO year. Some provinces have a lot of rainfall, some are flooded by water from the Mekong River and others have serious wet season’s drought. These problems are due to climate change in the region.

BB5
Date of collection of “Water Voice” * 02 September 2002
Region and country where you collected “Water Voice” • CAMBODIA, South East Asia • Rattanak Mondul district, Battambang province
Voice Senders: Adult
Gender of “Voice Senders: Male
Occupation Type of “Voice Senders”: Agriculture, Other
Key words: Ecosystem

Title: Rainfall and Frogs
Recent rains have forced villagers to catch frogs for selling. "It is very good for me when it rains because there are many frogs coming out of their holes” said the hunter”. I am happy when it is raining. It is a temporary business and helps improve my family’s income for a few months. In the previous years there were many frogs but this year and last year there have been fewer, because of over hunting. In the dry season, it is hard to find frogs because they are staying in their holes.
**BB6**

Date of collection of “Water Voice” * 02 October 2002  
Region and country where you collected “Water Voice” * CAMBODIA, * Southeast Asia * Tonle Sap Area, Battambang district, Battambang province  
Voice Senders: Adult  
Gender of “Voice Senders”: Male  
Occupation Type of “Voice Senders”: Agriculture  
Key words: Floods  

**Title: Flood Can Lead to Indebtedness**  
Flood from Tonle Sap lake inundated thousand hectares of agricultural land and rice fields around this area. Every year, the rice cultivation in this area is always hurried by flooding because they are located near the Tonle Sap Lake. Annual floods have forced some farmers to give up rice cultivation near the Tonle Sap Lake for three years, because if they continue to grow rice in this area, they can end up with heavy indebtedness with their neighbors (said one of the farmers in Battambang district). So the farmers have to use rice fields far away from the lake and hire rice fields of their neighbors.

**BB7**

Date of collection of “Water Voice” * 26 December 2002  
Region and country: CAMBODIA* Southeast Asia* Kalong Krom village, Moung Russey Commune/district, Battambang province  
Who is “Voice Senders”?: Elderly villagers  
Gender of “Voice Senders” : Male and Female  
Occupation Type of “Voice Senders”: Farmers  
Key words: Water and poverty, aquatic plants and animals  

**Title: Flood Increases Poverty to the Villagers**  
In the last few years flooding season in many areas brought with “dirty water” from flooded forest (Prey Roneam) to the rice fields and lasted for 1.5 –2 months. This water spoiled the rice plants and produces a very smelly crop. If there is flood water from the Svay Donkeo River to this area, the concentration of this dirty water can be deluded, then its effects on rice plants is low. If not, the effect is high. Like this year, 50% of rice crop were damaged and then production was reduced by 50%. Many villagers have to migrate out to the border of Pailin City etc. for earning additional income to supplement their food. Their jobs can be trading, wage labor in soybean, mung bean gardening etc.

According to the villagers, fishes are very clever; they escape from this area when it is flooded. However, fishes are extinguished due to the use of very dangerous fishing tools such as electric shock tools, and over-fishing.
III. KAMPONG CHAM PROVINCE

KCH1
Date of collection of “Water Voice”* 02 May 2002
Region and country where you collected “Water Voice” * CAMBODIA, Southeast Asia * Tepnimitt village, Tboung Khmum district, Kampong Cham province
Voice Senders: Adult
Gender of “Voice Senders”: Female
Occupation Type of “Voice Senders”: Agriculture
Keywords: Drought; Climate Change

Title: Drought and Climate Change
In our village, Tep Nimitt, the villagers use water from rainfall and wells for domestic and agricultural cultivation especially rice production. In the last two years, we had more rainfall than we needed, but this year in our area the rainfall started later than normal, so the villagers have suffered from a shortage of water. Most villagers’ well is running out of water, it's dry and we do not have enough well in our village. At the present, we spend more time to go to collect the water from a lake that is located about 3 km far away.

KCH2
Date of collection of “Water Voice”* 02 May 2002
Region and country where you collected “Water Voice” * CAMBODIA, Southeast Asia * Peam Chilang village, Tbong Khmum district, Kampong Cham province
Voice Senders: Adult
Gender of “Voice Senders”: Male
Occupation Type of “Voice Senders”: Agriculture
Keywords: Water and health; and Climate Change

Title: Water and Health, and Climate Change
Our village is Peam Chileang, it is located along the Mekong River where villagers can have water from the river, rainfall and wells for domestic and agricultural cultivation especially rice. In the last few years we had more rainfall than we needed. It was flooded everywhere but in this year the rainfall is coming late than normal. The changing of rainfall and water level of the river from year to year makes people difficult to plant their crops. On the other hand, the quality of water from the well is very poor, it contains calcareous element. Although having known about this fact, the well's water is still for domestic use but it is boiled before drinking.

KCH3
Date of collection of “Water Voice”* 01 May 2002
Region and country where you collected “Water Voice” * CAMBODIA, Southeast Asia * Thmey village, Kampong Seam district, Kampong Cham province
Voice Senders: Adult
Gender of “Voice Senders”: Female
Occupation Type of “Voice Senders”: Agriculture
Keywords: Rain-fed farming and drought

Title: Rainfed Farming and Drought
Many years ago, before the Pol Pot time our village had enough water and food. The villagers accessed water from a pond and a small lake in the pagoda that is located in the center of the village. At that time, the forest
covered everywhere except the rice field. During the civil war, the forest was cut down and our area became very dry. The rainfall is changing from year to year and the pond and lake were dry in summer so our villagers have suffered from a shortage of water but luckily we have a small number of tube-well that we can get some water to drink. In this area we can plant rice crop only one time per year and the rice farming depends on rainfall (it is called rain-fed rice). In the last few years, in our village there is a festival in April to pray for rain and for abundant harvest.

**KCH4**

Date of collection of “Water Voice”* 01 May 2002
Region and country where you collected “Water Voice” * CAMBODIA, Southeast Asia * Tayouk village, Kampong Seam district, Kampong Cham province
Voice Senders: Adult
Gender of “Voice Senders:” Male
Occupation Type of “Voice Senders”: Agriculture
Keywords: Rain-fed Farming and Drought

**Title: Rain-fed Farming and Drought**

Our villagers use rainwater and water from the wells in our livelihood. In the last few years, especially this year rainfall started very late so we have suffered from a shortage of water, but luckily we have a small number of tube-wells, and we can pump some drinking water for people and animals. The rainfall is changing from year to year and most of the wells are dry in summer. In this area we can plant rice crop only one time per year and the rice farming depend on rainfall. In our village there is no water basin or water canal that can provide water sources for this area. Every year in our village as well as in the whole country, Cambodian people hold Traditional Ceremony (Water Festival) in November to predict the rainfall for the coming cultivation season, and in May there is a Plowing Ceremony to predict the situation of agriculture of the next coming season.

**KCH 5**

Date of collection of “Water Voice”* 02 May 2002
Region and country where you collected “Water Voice” * CAMBODIA, Southeast Asia * Svay Teap Village, KhumSvay Teap, Chamcar Leu district, Kampong Cham province
Voice Senders: Elderly
Gender of “Voice Senders:” Male
Occupation Type of “Voice Senders”: Agriculture
Keywords: Climate Change

**Title: Climate Change**

Many years ago, our village had no problem with the shortage of water. At that time we could grow many crops and got very good harvest. Ten years later from that time, the rainfall begun to decline so agricultural production has been affected. The changing of rainfall is caused by illegal deforestation around this area and there is no control over how much wood that people can cut from the forest.

**KCH6**

Date of collection of “Water Voice”* 02 May 2002
Region and country where you collected “Water Voice” * CAMBODIA, Southeast Asia * Thlokran Village, Boskanol Commune, Chamcar Leu district, Kampong Cham province
Voice Senders: Elderly
Gender of “Voice Senders:” Male
Occupation Type of “Voice Senders”: Agriculture
Keywords: Climate Change and Water Scarcity
Title: Climate Change and Water Scarcity
We live in the highland area where we can plant many crops in the wet season better than some farmers who are living in the dry lowland area. Before Pol Pot time, in the 60th decade, we had no problem with the water, but during and after Pol Pot Regime thousands hectare of forest and agricultural plantation such as rubber and banana tree had been converted into seasonal crops (maize, bean, soybean etc.). Since then, time of rainfall started changing from year to year. Due to the population growth in our village and due to lack of water basin and water wells, we always suffer from a water shortage during summer.

KCH7
Date of collection of “Water Voice”* 02 May 2002
Region and country where you collected “Water Voice” * CAMBODIA, Southeast Asia * Srak Village, Khum Srak, Kompong Siem district, Kampong Cham province
Voice Senders: Elderly
Gender of “Voice Senders: Male
Occupation Type of “Voice Senders”: Agriculture
Keywords: Climate Change, drought

Title: Climate Change and Drought
We live at the lowland area where we can plant only rice crop, beans and maize during wet season. Many years ago, thousands hectare of forest around this area had been cut down by powerful people. Then the villagers cut down the forest trees which were re-grown later every year to use as fuel-wood. So in our area there is no more forest. Since that time the rainfall season changed from year to year and due to the population growth and lack of water resources, we always suffer from a water shortage in the summer time, especially in the last summer.

KCH8
Date of collection of “Water Voice”* 03 May 2002
Region and country where you collected “Water Voice” * CAMBODIA, Southeast Asia * Toeuk Chha, Trapeang Preah , Prey Chhor district, Kampong Cham province
Voice Senders: Elderly
Gender of “Voice Senders: Male
Occupation Type of “Voice Senders”: Agriculture
Keywords: Pollution

Title: Water Pollution
Most villagers in this village are farmers and we plant rice crop in the wet season and dry season. In our area we have a big water basin that is called “Teok Chha Basin”. In our water basin we have enough water in all year. Long time ago, the quality of water in this basin was very good and many villages that are located around the basin could access water from this basin for all kind of use. But in the last few years, during the public holidays such as Khmer New Year, thousands of people in the province come to visit this basin and has been converted into a tourist place. From that time the water quality has been polluted from the tourist activities. The problem is the lack or very poor management of the resource from the part of the local authority in this place.

KCH9
Date of collection of “Water Voice”* 02 May 2002
Region and country where you collected “Water Voice” * CAMBODIA, Southeast Asia * Kaoh Pean ,Khum Kaoh Mitt, Kompong Siem district, Kampong Cham province
Voice Senders: Elderly
Gender of “Voice Senders: Male
Occupation Type of “Voice Senders”: Agriculture, Forestry and Fishering
Keywords: Aquatic plants and animals, Drought
Title: Aquatic Plants and Animals and Drought
We live on the island village in the Mekong River. Our agricultural land has been flooded every year and we cannot plant any crops during the wet season. We were not fear about normal flooding and we drink or use very poor water quality from the river everyday, however, we adapted to this situation. After flooding time, we begin to cultivate our crops and go fishing. In the summer time, the river water is very far from the river’s bank so the villagers who have no water well have difficulty to go to collect water for use. In some places, the water level of the river is very low and running through the process of siltation, and at the same, the fishes and other aquatic animals could not live in it and some species had been died. If we compare to many years ago, the amount of fish in the river has been decreased from year to year.

KCH10
Date of collection of “Water Voice”* 02 July 2002
Region and country where you collected “Water Voice” * CAMBODIA, Southeast Asia * Boeung Sang Lech village, So Korng Commune, Kang Meas district, Kampong Cham province
Voice Senders: Elderly
Gender of “Voice Senders”: Male
Occupation Type of “Voice Senders”: Agriculture
Keywords: Floods

Title: Floods
We are people living in the Boeung Sang Lech Village, and have suffered a lot from seasonal flooding. In the late 1981, the flood caused riverbank erosion and road damage (from 200m to 350 m from year to year). On the other hand, annual flood is causing serious damage to the properties and crop production. This leads to food shortage, unroofed people, disease, and consequently serious starvation and the living condition is getting worse.

The problem is that, when flood arrives, the water rises up rapidly and flows very fast that erodes the riverbank and damages the rural road. The community needs support from NGOs or others to control the flood. The solution of the villagers for controlling the flood at the moment is to fix the road by filling up the soil and raise its height higher.

KCH11
Date of collection of “Water Voice”* 02 July 2002
Region and country where you collected “Water Voice” * CAMBODIA, Southeast Asia * Prek Andong village, Prek Kabao Commune, Kang Meas district, Kampong Cham province
Voice Senders: Elderly
Gender of “Voice Senders”: Male
Occupation Type of “Voice Senders”: Agriculture
Keywords: Floods

Title: Floods
Prek Andong village is located in Prek Kraboa commune, Kang Meas district of Kampong Cham province. It is a lowland area and flood is considered to be the major disaster in this village. Every year, this village faces annual flooding that causes severe damage to the property, crops production, livestock, and lost of human lives. The impacts of flood on the village are food shortage, unroofed people, disease, and consequently serious starvation as the living condition is getting worse and worse.

To manage and to solve the problem, the villagers and the American Red Cross have had an agreement to rebuild and repair the 780m old rural road in the village. However, the road was not high enough to avoid being overtaken by the floodwaters in a medium flood condition, although it can reduce the effects of flooding by about 70%. Thus, the community is still looking for ways to improve flood control measure for their village.
KCH12
Date of collection of “Water Voice”* 22 July 2002
Region and country where you collected “Water Voice” * CAMBODIA, Southeast Asia * Koh Sotin
Commune/district, Kampong Cham province
Voice Senders: Elderly
Gender of “Voice Senders: Male
Occupation Type of “Voice Senders”: Agriculture
Keywords: Floods, river bank erosion

Title: Floods

We are living on the island in Mekong River Basin, in Koh Sotin commune. During flooding, the water flows very strong to erode the riverbank from one side of the river, to expand the land at the opposite site of the river.

We have severely suffered from the riverbank erosion during the flooding season in the last three years. First, we lost our agricultural fields that are located near the riverbank. After that, some villagers lost their housing lands. The bank erosion will continue to increase from year to year. This year we lost our pagoda called Wat Kru Ouk that collapsed into the river. Until now many villagers have resettled their houses in other places because they lost their land and their agricultural job and life is going with difficulties.

KCH13
Date of collection of “Water Voice”* 22 July 2002
Region and country where you collected “Water Voice” * CAMBODIA, Southeast Asia * Chiro Leu Commune, Tbong Kmum distrit, Kampong Cham province
Voice Senders: Elderly
Gender of “Voice Senders: Male
Occupation Type of “Voice Senders”: Agriculture, Fishing
Keywords: Floods

Title: Floods

We are living in the low land along the Mekong River. Our village is under flooding for more than a month during the flooding season, however, we have adapted to live with this situation. In the last 10 years, something has been changing. The riverbank is increasingly eroded from year to year and produces serious impact on living standard of the villagers, especially the poorest. They lost their homes and their fields and they do not have enough money to buy new land. Until now we lost many hundreds hectares of land and in the last 2 years our Buddhist pagoda where people in this area used to celebrate traditional festivals was collapsed into the river. The problem may come from the strong water flow and waves.
KCH14
Date of collection of “Water Voice”* 22 July 2002
Region and country where you collected “Water Voice”* CAMBODIA, Southeast Asia * Chiro Leu Commune, Tbong Kmum distrit, Kampong Cham province
Voice Senders: Adult, Children
Gender of “Voice Senders: Male, Female
Occupation Type of “Voice Senders”: Teacher, Student
Keywords: Floods

Title: Floods
We are teachers and small pupils from the Primary School of Roka Thom Village. We have suffered from flooding every year. In the flooding time all the pupils have to stop learning and the class depends on the flood. Actually this year, the flood is coming quicker than normal, the pupils did no go to school for three weeks before the big vacation starts. In this case, the pupils couldn’t finish their study program as planned. Further more, if it is flooded for a long time, the building and some school equipment will be damaged, thus for the next school year we need budget to repair them.

KCH15
Date of collection of “Water Voice”* 19 July 2002
Region and country where you collected “Water Voice”* CAMBODIA, Southeast Asia * Bram Yam village, Srey Santhor district, Kampong Cham province
Voice Senders: Adult
Gender of “Voice Senders: Male
Occupation Type of “Voice Senders”: Student
Keywords: Floods, Education and Awareness, Irrigation

Title: Floods, Irrigation, Education and Awareness about Clean Water and Sanitation
The Bram Yam village has a lot of problems with irrigation, floods and education awareness. This village is flooded every year during the raining season, therefore the villagers have difficulty to grow their crops and to go to somewhere else for seeking other income activities. Oppositely, during the dry season, they also suffer from water shortage, thus it is impossible to grow rice and vegetable because there is no irrigation facility.

At the same time, the villagers have limited education and awareness about clean water and sanitation. These are main problems in this area, because they always drink the unclean water, which is harmful to their health. As a student living in this village, I request the Royal Government and NGOs to focus on these issues and send some experts to educate people about clean water and sanitation and to build some irrigation facility for this area.

KCH16
Date of collection of “Water Voice”* 18 August 2002
Region and country where you collected “Water Voice”* CAMBODIA, Southeast Asia * Khvet Thom village/commune, Prey Chhor district, Kampong Cham province
Voice Senders: Elderly
Gender of “Voice Senders: Male
Occupation Type of “Voice Senders”: Agriculture
Keywords: Droughts

Title: Drought and Bitter Harvest
We are farmers living in the Khvet Thom village, we are facing serious drought during this wet season. In normal year, at this time we almost finish rice cultivation, but now our rice field is getting extremely dry. More than half of rice seedlings on the small piece of that field have become parched and burnt. We are worried about
our family’s livelihood for the next year if this keeps up, therefore we take the last opportunity to plant rice seedlings into a bone dry paddy field; and we are praying and hoping for rain to come as soon as possible. We could not do anything against the extreme climate, but we do not want a bitter harvest for this year.

KCH17
Date of collection of “Water Voice” * 02 May 2002
Region and country where you collected “Water Voice” * CAMBODIA, Southeast Asia * Village No 85, Chamcar Andoung, Kampong Cham province
Voice Senders: Adult
Gender of “Voice Senders” Male
Occupation Type of “Voice Senders” Agriculture
Keywords: Pollution

Title: Wastewater from Rubber Factory Impacts Livelihood of People in Four Villages

About 40 ha of paddy fields of the people in four villages (Rumchak, Chhouk, O’Kanseig and No.85 villages) have been damaged due to the discharged wastewater from Chamcar Andong rubber factory.

Villagers in village No 85 said that since more than three years they could not have good rice crop and other crops because of the discharged wastewater from the rubber factory. The crop yield has decreased about 80% due to polluted soil by wastewater. Every year in the wet season, rubber’s wastewater is mixed with rainwater and flows directly into the rice fields.

Furthermore the wastewater has impacted on human health and animal lives. When the villagers cultivate or prepare the soil, they have suffered from skin diseases such as serious itch. Victims have requested the factory to stop discharging wastewater into their fields. They will be starved in the near future, if the factory does not stop discharging wastewater into their rice fields.

KCH18
Date of collection of “Water Voice” * 7 January 2003
Region and country: * Southeast Asia* CAMBODIA / Svay Sach Phnom commune, Srei Santhor district, Kampong Cham province
Who is “Voice Senders”? Adult
Gender of “Voice Senders” Male
Occupation Type of “Voice Senders” Student
Keywords: Water scarcity, drought, water and health, food security,

Title: Water Scarcity in Dry Season
Svay Sach Phnom commune is located along the main stream of the Mekong River and the livelihood of the people depends on agricultural production. Generally, there is enough water for all people during the rainy season, but not during the dry season. Usually people who are living along the rivers cultivate crops in the dry season so they need water for irrigation. Not enough water means that crops could not grow well and the yield will be low, thus family food is not secured and poverty increases.

I would like to request the government or Non-Governmental Organisations to help the people by building dams or irrigation system, and digging wells for drinking water because the water quality in this area is not healthy. These actions can contribute to reduce poverty of the people in this area.
Title: Water and Poverty
Raung Ko village is one of the villages in Prey Chhor district that is always suffered water shortage during the dry season. Traditionally, the main job of the villagers is rain-fed rice farming. Their rice production depends on the natural rainfall, and due to the changing climate in the last few years, poverty in this area is worse because they did not have a good harvest. To fulfill their demand, in the dry season, the villagers have cultivated vegetables by using well’s water for irrigation, but they could not expand their growing area because the water resource is limited. If we have enough water, we will grow more vegetables for selling. Growing vegetable is an additional income for supporting our family.

Title: No rains, no Rice
In the last two years, the villagers have faced drought problems, so they could not cultivate their wet season rice on time. They cultivated wet season rice at the end of wet season, at that time the traditional rice plants or species could not grow well, therefore they could not get yield as normal year. Generally, our traditional rice species flowered between October and November. Last year, the rains had fallen in mid October, few days later we transplanted rice seedlings, thus the rice plants flowered with a little growth. This is the reason of low yield. Furthermore, they could not cultivate dry season rice because there is not enough water in the reservoir to irrigate the rice crops.

Title: Drinking Water Shortage When No Rainfalls
Tangkork village always face shortage of drinking water when there is no rainfalls, particularly, during the dry season people and animals suffer seriously. In our village, we cannot dig any wells that provide us drinking water. All wells run dried during dry season or when there is no rain for long time. Usually, in the dry season our villagers go to collect drinking water from neighboring villages that are located at least one kilometer from
our place. They can carry, and transport either with bicycles or ox-carts. To solve this problem, in the rainy season the villager collect and store the rainwater as much as they can do, but they could not build big water reservoir by themselves because they are living in poor condition.

KCH22
Date of collection of “Water Voice” * 26 November 2002
Region and country * Southeast Asia, CAMBODIA* Trea Sor village/Commune, Srei Santhor district, Kampong Cham province
Who is “Voice Senders”? Adult
Gender of “Voice Senders” Male
Occupation Type of “Voice Senders”: Student
Key words: Education and Awareness, water and health

Title: : Education and Awareness, Water and Health
Trea Sor is a poor village that is located in Srei Santhor, Kampong Cham province. People at this place are lacking of knowledge, education, sanitation about water and health, but the most importance factor is sanitation. Why do I say that because I saw all people at this place always drink dirty water, wash and bath themselves in the water where they wash their cattle too. They are using dirty water for very day needs such as cooking, washing vegetables, meat or cooking utensils, etc., because they are lacking clean water, and knowledge about the effect of using polluted water on their health.

According to this information, I do hope that the government or some organization which are concerning with this problem will do some things to help them.
IV. KAMPONG CHHNANG PROVINCE

KCHH1
Date of collection of “Water Voice”* 25 April 2002
Region and country where you collected “Water Voice”* Southeast Asia, CAMBODIA* Tonle Sap area, Kampong Chhang province
Voice Senders: Adult
Gender of “Voice Senders: Male
Occupation Type of “Voice Senders”: Fishing
Key words: Drought, Ecosystem

Title: Drought and Ecosystem
Long time ago, Tone Sap is one of the largest fresh water lakes in Asia and has a lot of fish species and high value ecosystem. During this summer, large numbers of fish died and were floating on the surface of the water. This problem is caused by algae and plankton, a drought and heavy trawling in the upper reaches of Tonle Sap. Fish farmers’ apply high amount of fertilizer in Kampong Chhang province which enhance the massive growth of algae and plankton in the water. In previous years, the heavy monsoon rains decreased the concentration of fertilizer, and prevented such massive growth. If rain falls early and bringing along with it more wind and waves, this condition will keep the fish alive.
This year’s fishing season (was kicked off in March and lasts through July) has little rain so far, this leads to a build-up population of algae and plankton in the Tonle Sap water, therefore, affect the fishes. Fish lot owners caught a lot of dead fish and had to sell them at a very low price.

KCHH2
Date of collection of “Water Voice”* 12 July 2002
Region and country where you collected “Water Voice”* Southeast Asia, CAMBODIA*: Tonle Sap low land area
Voice Senders: Adult, Elderly
Gender of “Voice Senders: Male, Female
Occupation Type of “Voice Senders”: Public Officer, Agriculture, Fishing
Key words: Floods

Title: Floods
We are living around the Tonle Sap area. We have difficulty to live in our villages because of flood from the Mekong River and from heavy rainfall in the upstream area during the wet season. Long time ago, the villagers could have dry land about 5 to 6 months within a year, but in the last few years we have dry land only about 3 months per year.
This problem can be due to (i) the Tonle Sap River is shallower from time to time; (ii) the water level of the Mekong River increases very quickly; (iii) a lot of bridges on the national road No 6 allow the flow of water to run from the Mekong river directly to the Tonle Sap lake to flood the upper part of this area; (iv) heavy rainfall in the up stream rivers; and (v) the water discharge from Tonle Sap is very slow.
**KCHH3**

Date of collection of “Water Voice” * 16 November 2002  
Region and country where you collected “Water Voice” * CAMBODIA, Southeast Asia * Peam Popech village, Koh Thkov commune, Choul Kiri district, Kampong Chhang province  
Voice Senders: Elderly  
Gender of “Voice Senders:” Male  
Occupation Type of “Voice Senders”: Agriculture  
Key words: Water and health, water and poverty  

**Title: Domestic Water in a Poor Village**

Peam Popech is one of many villages that are located along the Tonle Sap River. The livelihood of the villagers is depended on the water of Tonle Sap River, rainfall and lakes around this area because they are fishers and farmers. There is no well in the whole village, usually the villagers get water from rainfall and the Tonle Sap River for domestic use. In the last few years, the whole village has been flooded. This is very different from before, when flooding happened once within the period of 4 or 5 years. Up to present, they did not have any clean water for drinking except rainwater in the wet season. During flooding time, they use flooded water under their houses, which is mixed up with all wastes, particularly human waste for their daily requirement. During the dry season, they use river water that is some time stink, very polluted and muddy because they have no choice.

**KCHH4**

Date of collection of “Water Voice” * 16 November 2002  
Region and country where you collected “Water Voice” * Southeast Asia, CAMBODIA* Peam Popech village, Koh Thkov commune, Choul Kiri district, Kampong Chhang province  
Voice Senders: Adult  
Gender of “Voice Senders:” Female  
Occupation Type of “Voice Senders”: Agriculture  
Key words: Rivers/River basin Management, private sector  

**Title: Speedboat Affects Life of the People along the Tonle Sap River**  
In the last few years, after Cambodia gaining peace, increase of public transport and its modernization such as speedboat, are damaging the ecosystem and the property of the people who are living along the river.

Peam Popech is one of many villages that are located along the Tonle Sap River, is vulnerable to the speedboat navigation. Every day the speedboats that transport many passengers along the river nearby the riverbank create very big and strong waves that are causing riverbank erosion; damaging fish habitats, properties and housing of the villagers, trees or agricultural plantation, and soil quality. During the flooding season, the strong waves destroyed all vegetations, small houses, fishing boat or other properties of the flooded village. After flooding, the villagers have planted some trees again to replace the destroyed trees but the young trees plantation have been destroyed again from the strong waves of the speedboats.
Title: Speedboat Is Destroying Fish Habitats in the Tonle Sap River

In the last four years, the increasing of water-way transportation, particularly the navigation of speedboats has produced serious impacts to the ecosystem in the Tonle Sap River. Long time ago, in our community we had a lot of fishes, but increasing the population and their food demand, the use of illegal fishing equipments, the navigation of speedboats and changes of the river, are leading to decreasing number of fishes remarkably.

I would like to inform you only about the damage caused by passenger-speedboats that impact on fish stock in our village. When fishes laid eggs in inundated forest or some other habitats along the riverside, during that time most of their eggs were pushed to be dried on the mainland by the strong waves of speedboats navigation. On the other hand, riverbank erosion is another problem that is caused by the strong waves of the speedboats, and this erosion is making the river shallower, so fishes could not live in it any more. At the same time, the strong sound of the speedboats is disturbing the living of fish, therefore they moved to live in other places.

Title: Drought Impact the Livelihood of Peam Popech People

The Livelihood of people in Peam Popech village is depended on fishing and dry season agriculture farming. In the last few years, they have suffered from floods during wet season and lack of water for irrigation in dry season. Serious drought this year damages the dry season rice of the villagers. Increase of dry season rice farming, leads to increase water demand for irrigation. For this year, most of the villagers have food shortage, because they could not have good harvest in the last few years. The problem is due to the severe drought that leads to drying of the Meteuk Kou Dam and other lakes around this area. The lack of water leads to death of many fishes in those dried lakes.
**KCHH7**

Date of collection of “Water Voice” * 16 November 2002  
Region and country where you collected “Water Voice” * Southeast Asia, CAMBODIA  
Koh Thkov commune, Chol kiri district, Kampong Chhnang province  
Voice Senders: Adult  
Gender of “Voice Senders: Female  
Occupation Type of “Voice Senders”: Agriculture, Fishing  
Key words: Water security  

**Title: Water and Livelihood of Peam Poech People**

The livelihood of people who are living here is depending on the Tonle Sap River and lakes around this area because we have been farmers and fishers for a long time. If the river and other lakes or water sources in this area have been dried, we would be or may be died, we could not do anything else to support our families. Also we need to protect and save our water. Farmer Chhun Ya, 41 years, female.

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**KCHH8**

Date of collection of “Water Voice” * 15 December 2002  
Region and country where you collected “Water Voice” * Southeast Asia, CAMBODIA  
Kanlaeng Phe, Kok Banteay commune, Rolea Phaier district, Kampong Chhnang province  
Voice Senders: Adult  
Gender of “Voice Senders: Female  
Occupation Type of “Voice Senders”: Public officer  
Key words: Climate change  

**Title: Climate Change Impacted on People Livelihood**

In the past, people did not face extreme climate events such as floods and droughts like nowadays, but in the last few years, we have many problems from the weather that is affecting the people in the whole country. Some time we had floods, some time droughts, irregular weather changes or abnormal increase of water table that destroyed crops, caused poverty to people or killed human lives. In some places where extreme drought occurred, people as well as animals could not find any water for drinking. This climate change has impacted seriously on people livelihood, especially the poor, and this can make them poorer.

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**KCHH9**

Date of collection of “Water Voice” * 15 December 2002  
Region and country where you collected “Water Voice” * Southeast Asia, CAMBODIA  
Kanlaeng Phe, Kok Banteay commune, Rolea Phaier district, Kampong Chhnang province  
Voice Senders: Adult  
Gender of “Voice Senders: Female  
Occupation Type of “Voice Senders”: Public officer  
Key words: Water and health, Pollution  

**Title: Serious Drought Caused Water Pollution**

During dry season this year, people who are living along Tonle Sap River have been affected from the river’s water. It is observed that the river’s water becomes sour and smelly, very unusual. It is questionable whether it
could be the effect of serious drought this year. During that time, the stinking and sour water caused to death to a lot of fish species and this has impacted on health of the villagers in this area.

KCCH10
Date of collection of “Water Voice” * 15 December 2002
Region and country where you collected “Water Voice” * Southeast Asia, CAMBODIA* Kanlaeng Phe village, Kok Banteay commune, Rolea Piear district, Kampong Chhang province
Voice Senders: Adult
Gender of “Voice Senders: Female
Occupation Type of “Voice Senders”: Fishing
Key words: Gender

Title: Gender and Fishing
Generally, livelihood of people in Kanlaeng Phe village is based on rice cultivation and fishing, and these activities are based on natural water. More than 40% of total women have taken part in fishing, especially widows. During wet season, women start fishing from May until October in the rice fields, lake or stream because it is time for nearby-home fishing. During dry season (potential fishing time), they fish in the Tonle Sap lake and fishing lots which are located far from their houses. Compared to fishermen, the fisherwomen could not catch as much fishes as fishermen. Apart from fishing, those women play important role in natural resources management. They always advise their children to protect the water or natural resources, because water and inundated forests are very important for fish habitat and human lives.
V. KAMPONG SPEU PROVINCE

KSP1
Date of collection of “Water Voice”* 2 July 2002
Region and country where you collected “Water Voice” * Southeast Asia, CAMBODIA* Trapeangbeik, Teuk Lung I and II Village, Rung Roeung commune, Thpong district, Kampong Speu province
Voice Senders: Elderly
Gender of “Voice Senders: Male
Occupation Type of “Voice Senders”: Agriculture
Key words: Ground water, Water Supply System

Water sources: ponds, waterpumps, wells and rainfall.

The villagers in this area are facing problems of water shortage such as lack of clean water supplies, changing of raining time, lack of water for all use in the dry season, and the ground water is very deep. Our strategies to access the water can be collecting water from the very far water sources, digging ponds to store the water in wet season, saving the water, and waiting for rainfall. We need assistance to drill the tube wells or dig the ponds and we need clean water supply.

KSP2
Date of collection of “Water Voice”* 2 July 2002
Region and country where you collected “Water Voice” * Souteast Asia, CAMBODIA* Prey Phdau village, Trapeang Kong Commune, Samraong Tong district, Kampong Speu province
Voice Senders: Elderly
Gender of “Voice Senders: Male
Occupation Type of “Voice Senders”: Agriculture
Key words: Ground water, Water Supply System

Title: Floods
We are people who are living along the Prek Thnaut River. We have suffered frequently from seasonal flooding during the wet season. In the last several years, the riverbank has been eroded severely during the flood season due to heavy rainfall on the upper stream of the Mekong River and due to rapid rising up and very fast flow of the water.

Other problems that can be observed in the river are that from year to year it becomes shallower and the water spills out to flood hundreds hectares of our rice fields. As you know, we are farmers, the food production and incomes generation for our living standard depend on the rice farming. Until now we couldn’t do anything against the natural disasters, what we can do is to pray to the God for a good harvest only.
KSP3
Date of collection of “Water Voice”* 14 August 2002
Region and country where you collected “Water Voice” * Southeast Asia, CAMBODIA* Skush village, Kampong Speu province
Voice Senders: Adult
Gender of “Voice Senders: Male
Occupation Type of “Voice Senders”: Agriculture
Key words: Dams, Irrigation

**Title: Dam and Irrigation**
In the past, Skush ‘s villagers had difficulty to travel, transport their agricultural products and withdraw the water from the canal for all use. When there was heavy rainfall, the rice fields were flooded and when there was a little rain our rice fields were dried. The problem is that the water canal was lower than the rice fields, so all water in the canal flowed down into the tributaries of Preak Thnot River, at the same time there was lacked of irrigation system.

To solve the above problem, the governor of Phnom Penh City and his colleagues have provided fund to build an irrigation system including dam, bridge, and water-gate that could irrigate about five hundreds hectares of rice field for villagers in this area. We are hoping that in the future the farmers will not have problem with water in rice farming.

KSP4
Date of collection of “Water Voice” * 17 October 2002
Region and country where you collected “Water Voice” * Southeast Asia, CAMBODIA* Samdeach Ov village, Kampong Speu province
Voice Senders: Adult
Gender of “Voice Senders: Male
Occupation Type of “Voice Senders”: Agriculture
Key words: Drought

**Title: Drought Leading to Severe Food Crisis**
South and southeastern Cambodia faced serious drought this year. This year’s dry spell was the country worst since 1995. It destroyed whole villages and may have brought long-term havoc for the food supply for the country. One of the farmers in Samdeach Ov village said: “My village has had no rain since early this year and all the farm land has dried up. I sowed rice three times, but all have died. I have never seen anything like this before. I don’t know what will happen next year, because I don’t have any rice for next year. We are not clear what would be the next step for our family except to wait for help from the government.

KSP5
Date of collection of “Water Voice”* 08 June 2002
Region and country where you collected “Water Voice” * Southeast Asia, CAMBODIA* Thlok Mean Village, Khum Snam Krapeu, Kong Pisei district, Kampong Speu province
Voice Senders: Adult
Gender of “Voice Senders: Male
Occupation Type of “Voice Senders”: Agriculture
Key words: Water and Health

**Title: Water and Health**
We live in the remote lowland area where we can plant only rice crop during the wet season. Our crops, especially rice depends on rainfall from the sky, no rain no rice, and the villagers are living in poor condition. In
our village we have a small lake and some wells. Long time ago, the villagers accessed water from a small lake for domestic use, but in the last few years the lake’s water has been polluted due to the utilization of chemical fertilizers in the rice fields around the lake and the water flows from the rice fields into the lake. Nonetheless, some villagers have adapted to use this water in their livelihood and some others use the water from the wells. Sometime we had flood in our area and destroyed our rice crop and during that time we lacked of clean water.

KSP6
Date of collection of “Water Voice”* 08 June 2002
Region and country where you collected “Water Voice” * Southeast Asia, CAMBODIA * Trapeang Veaeng Village, Khum Snam Krapeu, Kong Pisei district, Kampong Speu province
Voice Senders: Elderly
Gender of “Voice Senders: Male
Occupation Type of “Voice Senders”: Agriculture
Key words: Water and Health

Title: Water and Health
Many years ago we used water from a small lake and rainfall for all use. In the last few years the water in the lake has been polluted from the activities of rainfed farming that our farmers have fertilized more chemical fertilizers in their rice fields around the lake to increase the yield. About three years ago, the government had to drill some tube-wells for our village, but water from these wells is very poor quality, it contains more calcareous and other elements that people could not use it. Nonetheless, villagers have adapted to use that water in their livelihood. The problem is the lack of adequate management of water resource in the lake. Sometime we face drought problem, so our villagers went to collect the water from other villages or from Svay Chey pagoda that is located more than 1 km from our village.

KSP7
Date of collection of “Water Voice”* 8 June 2002
Region and country where you collected “Water Voice” * Southeast Asia, CAMBODIA * Snuol Village, Khum Snam Krapeu, Kong Pisei district, Kampong Speu province
Voice Senders: Elderly
Gender of “Voice Senders: Female
Occupation Type of “Voice Senders”: Agriculture
Key words: Water and Health

Title: Water and Health
We live in Snoul village long time ago and from that time we used water from rainfall and small lake. We plant rice crop during the wet season. Our crops, especially rice is depending on the rainfall and sometime we pumped water from small lake to rescue our rice crop, no water no rice. In the last few years the lake’s water has been polluted due to more utilization of chemical fertilizers in the rice fields around the small lake and if the water passes the level of the bunds it will flow into the small lake. Some villagers have adapted to use this water in their livelihood and some others use the clean water from wells. Sometime we had flood in our area, which destroyed our rice crops and during that time we lacked of clean water. For some years, when the small lake and wells dried up during the summer time, the villagers went to collect water from Svay Chhay pagoda for all use.
KSP8
Date of collection of “Water Voice”* 08 June 2002
Region and country where you collected “Water Voice” * Southeast Asia, CAMBODIA * Trapeang Veang village, Khum Snam Krapeu, Kong Pisei district, Kampong Speu province
Voice Senders: Elderly
Gender of “Voice Senders”: Female
Occupation Type of “Voice Senders”: Agriculture
Key words: Water and Health, Water and Poverty

Title: Water and Health and Poverty
We live in a remote lowland area that we can plant only rice crop during the wet season. Normally, in the wet season, we have enough water to use in the household and for our rice crop. The rice crop depends on the rainfall from the sky, if there is enough rain there is more rice. The villagers are living in poor condition. In our village we have a small lake and some wells that have enough water in the wet season, but in the dry season most of them dry. If we have enough water in the dry season we may be able to plant the dry season rice again or vegetables that can provide enough food for our family and our living standard will be increased. The water quality of our small lake is very poor, it is muddy and contains a lot of plankton. Well’s water contains calcareous elements. However, some villagers have adapted to use this water in their livelihood.

KSP9
Date of collection of “Water Voice”* 08 June 2002
Region and country where you collected “Water Voice” * South Asia, CAMBODIA* Trapeang Stong village, Khum Snam Krapeu, Kong Pisei district, Kampong Speu province
Voice Senders: Elderly
Gender of “Voice Senders”: Male
Occupation Type of “Voice Senders”: Agriculture
Key words: Water and Health, Water and Poverty

Title: Water and Health and Poverty
We live in Trapeang Stong Village, which is located in the remote area of Kampong Speu province. We can plant rice crop and some vegetables in the wet season. Normally, in the wet season, we have enough water to use in the household and for our rice field. But everything is changing from time to time like this year rainfall started late than normal year and caused no water for rice or other vegetable cultivation. Most of our rice seedlings and vegetables are going to die. We could not do any thing to rescue them except for some fields that are located around the small lake, we could pump the water to irrigate them. Our rice crop depends on rainfall, if there is enough rainfall we can produce more rice. If not we will lack of food and most villagers are living in poor condition. In our village we have a small lake and some wells that have enough water in the wet season, but in the dry season most of them dry. The water quality of our small lake is very poor that has silt and plankton, but well’s water contains calcareous elements. However, some villagers have adapted to use these waters in their livelihood.

KSP10
Date of collection of “Water Voice”* 08 June 2002
Region and country where you collected “Water Voice” * Southeast Asia, CAMBODIA* Snoul village, Khum Snam Krapeu, Kong Pisei district, Kampong Speu province
Voice Senders: Elderly
Gender of “Voice Senders”: Female
Occupation Type of “Voice Senders”: Agriculture
Key words: Water and Health
Title: Water and Health

In our village, Snoul village, we are lacked of clean water for every day use in the household during wet and dry season. Generally, the villagers use rainfall, and we have access to water from the ponds and wells in the village all year round if there is water available in them. The quality of rainwater is good, but the quality of water from the ponds and wells are very poor. The problems are that:

(i) Most of ponds are located nearby the rice fields but in lower land. During the wet season the villagers use more and more chemical fertilizers and pesticide in rice cultivation to increase yield. If rice fields are flooded, the water flows into the ponds and take along the chemicals.

(ii) The well’s water contains calcareous and metallic elements which make a bad test and poor quality to the water.

Some villagers have adapted to use these waters in their livelihood. We need to improve our water quality and we have also been considering relocating the ponds or to make high dam around the ponds.

KSP11

Date of collection of “Water Voice”* 08 June 2002
Region and country where you collected “Water Voice” * Southeast Asia, CAMBODIA * Kak Krapeu village, Khum Snam Krapeu, Kong Pisei district, Kampong Speu province
Voice Senders: Elderly
Gender of “Voice Senders: Female
Occupation Type of “Voice Senders”: Agriculture
Key words: Drought

Title: Drought

We live in the remote lowland area where we can plant only rice crop in the wet season. In our village we have small ponds and some wells that have enough water in the wet season. Normally, in the wet season, we have had enough water to use in the household and for our rice field. Our rice crop depends on the rainfall, if there is enough rainfall there will be enough rice for food, and we can say that our livelihood depends on rainfall. Up to date we have enough clean water from the wells for domestic use, except in the drought event like this year that we do not have enough water because most of the ponds and wells are dried. To overcome the shortage of water during drought event, we will dig some more ponds and well to collect and reserve rainwater for dry season.

KSP12

Date of collection of “Water Voice”* 15 June 2002
Region and country where you collected “Water Voice” * Southeast Asia, CAMBODIA * Trapeang Baek village, Khum Rung Roeang, Thpong district, Kampong Speu province
Voice Senders: Elderly
Gender of “Voice Senders: Female
Occupation Type of “Voice Senders”: Agriculture
Key words: Drought, Water Security

Title: Drought and Water Security

We live in the remote area, which is far away from the main road and we do not have any help from NGO or Government to drill any tube-well for us. Normally, in the wet season, we have water from the rainfall to use in the household and for our rice field. In our village we have a small pond and some wells that have enough water in the wet season, but in the dry season most of them are dry. During the last summer this year, we had a big water shortage and we could not find any water in our pond because it has been dry. From early morning and in the late evening we went to collect water from other pond that is located more than 3 km from our village. We spent a lot of time to fetch the water for our domestic use such as cooking and drinking, and we couldn’t waste...
any water for washing. Our Villagers are calling for help from NGOs or Government to dig some ponds or wells for us to collect rainwater for use during summer.

**KSP13**

Date of collection of “Water Voice”* 15 June 2002  
Region and country where you collected “Water Voice”* Southeast Asia, CAMBODIA *  
Teuk Long Muoy village, Khum Rung Roeang, Thpong district, Kampong Speu province  
Voice Senders: Elderly  
Gender of “Voice Senders:” Male  
Occupation Type of “Voice Senders”: Agriculture  
Key words: Drought, Water Scarcity  

**Title: Drought and Water Scarcity**

In our village, Teuk Long Muoy, which is far away from the main road and we do not have any help from NGO or Government to drill any tube-well or dig any ponds for us. Long time ago, in the wet season, we had water from the rainfall to use in the household and for our rice field. In our village people have access to water from the rainfall, small pond and some wells for all use. We have enough water in the normal wet season, but in the dry season most of them run dry. In the last summer this year, we had a big problem with the water shortage. We could not find any clear water in our ponds because all human and animals use it. At the same time the quality of the very little water in those ponds has been polluted. We had to spend many hours within a day in the early morning and late evening to collect water from other ponds around the village for our domestic use such as cooking and drinking, and we do not want to waste this water for washing. Our Villagers are calling for help from NGOs or Government to dig some ponds or wells for us to collect rainwater for use in summer.

**KSP14**

Date of collection of “Water Voice”* 15 June 2002  
Region and country where you collected “Water Voice”* Southeast Asia, CAMBODIA * Teuk Long Pir village, Khum Rung Roeang , Thpong district, Kampong Speu province  
Voice Senders: Elderly  
Gender of “Voice Senders:” Female  
Occupation Type of “Voice Senders”: Agriculture  
Key words: Drought, Water Security  

**Title: Water Security and Drought**

In our village, where people used to suffer from water shortage, because we live far away from the main road and we do have any help from NGO or Government to drill any tube-well for us. In the normal wet season, we have had enough water from the rainfall to use in the household and for our rice field. In our village we have ponds and some wells that have enough water in the wet season, but in the dry season most of them dry up. During the drought event like in the last summer, we had very big problem with water shortage, and we could not find any water in our pond because it was dry. We spent a lot of time to carry water from other ponds in the very far area for cooking and drinking, and we do not want to waste any water for washing. Luckily, we have got help from World Food Programme that has supported us to dig some ponds in our village to collect the forthcoming raining water for the next summer.
KSP15
Date of collection of “Water Voice” * 31 December 2002
Region and country * Southeast Asia * CAMBODIA * Ang Snoul Commune, Kampong Speu province
Who is “Voice Senders”? Adult
Gender of “Voice Senders” Male
Occupation Type of “Voice Senders” Farmer
Key words: Water and health, Water security

Title: Drinking Water in the Rural Area
Before, the water of the stream as well as in side the rice fields could be drunk. At present, the farmers have to collect drinking water from the well’s water because the water from both sources is not safe for drinking any more.

KSP16
Date of collection of “Water Voice” * 30 December 2002
Region and country: Southeast Asia * CAMBODIA * Roleang Chak commune, Samrong Tong district, Kampong Speu province
Who is “Voice Senders”? Adult
Gender of “Voice Senders” Male
Occupation Type of “Voice Senders”: Agriculture
Key words: Rain-fed farming, flood and drought, water and poverty

Title: Flood and Drought Increase Poverty Incidence
Roleang Chak is one of the communes in Samrong Tong district, Kampong Speu province that has suffered from flood and drought in the last few years. People living in this commune are depending mainly on the rice production. Because the commune is situated near the down stream of the water flows from mountainous areas, the commune is facing the affect of floods almost every year. Furthermore, if they do not suffer from floods, they can suffer from drought like this year. As a result of the frequency of natural disaster and due to the location of this area that is not suitable for rice production, the livelihood of the people is down and the poverty is increasing from year to year.

KSP17
Date of collection of “Water Voice” * 06 March 2003
Region and country where you collected “Water Voice” * Southeast Asia, CAMBODIA * Southeast Asia/ Banteay Roka pagoda, Banteay Roka village, Khum Krang Deyway, Phnom Srouch district, Kampong Speu province
Voice Senders: Adult
Gender of “Voice Senders” Male
Occupation Type of “Voice Senders”: Monks
Key words: Drought, water scarcity
**Title: The Shortage of Clean Water in Banteay Roka Pagoda**

Banteay Roka village is located in a remote area of Phnom Srouch district, Kampong Speu province. In the pagoda, there is an unfinished pond, which provides water for both monks and surrounding villagers. The monks in the pagoda said that during rainy season, both monks and villagers can get water from the pond for domestic use but there is not enough water for whole year round use. A few months after the rainfall ends, the pond runs dried. Nowadays, we have difficulty to get water for drinking, washing or bathing particularly when we have ceremonies. The villagers kept the little water in the pond for fishes and for small necessity of the monks, so every day we have to carry water from a well located in the rice field about 1.5 km far from the pagoda. We also would like to request the Government or NGOs to help us for digging pond or well more to get or store water during rainy season.

**KSP18**

Date of collection of “Water Voice” * 06 March 2003  
Region and country where you collected “Water Voice” * Souteasy Asia, CAMBODIA * Krang Kroch village, Krang Deway commune, Phnom Srurch district, Kampong Speu province  
Voice Senders: Adult  
Gender of “Voice Senders”: Female  
Occupation Type of “Voice Senders”: Farmer  
Key words: Drought, water scarcity

**Title: Water shortage in a remote village**

We are people living in Krang Kroch village. We have suffered seriously from shortage of drinking water for long time, particularly at present. There is only an open well’s water in the village and it yields enough water in the rainy season (up to 3m depth). Unfortunately, the well cannot yield much water during the dry season, particularly this year only about 30 cm depth of water can be produced per day. So there is competition among villagers to collect this small amount of water at the very early morning of the day. We have difficulty to get water for drinking, we must go to collect water from a small river stream called Stung Sva Slap which is located about 3 km from our village. We need water for daily use so we request to all of you to help us digging some ponds or wells that can have water.

**KSP19**

Date of collection of “Water Voice” * 06 March 2003  
Region and country where you collected “Water Voice”  
Country: * Southeast Asia, CAMBODIA* Banteay Roka village, Khum Krang Deway, Phnom Sruoch district, Kampong Speu province  
Voice Senders: Child  
Gender of “Voice Senders”: Female  
Occupation Type of “Voice Senders”: School Children  
Key words: Water scarcity
I am Chan Kim, female, 15 years old, second grade of primary school. I live in Banteay Roka village. My village has serious shortage of clean water every year especially in the dry season. I always go to carry muddy water from a pond, which is located near the village’s road and is about one kilometer from my house. In the pond there is only muddy water but generally we use it for cooking, washing and bathing. We did not have any choice and if we want to have cleaner water than this muddy water for drinking, we should go to collect from a well in neighboring village but is very far. In a day I must carry many times muddy water for using in my house. I am tired to carry water, and sometimes I come late to school. I often carry water with my shoulder and sometimes with bicycle. My family is busy to work for food, so my duty is to collect water. I want to have clean water in my village but it is not far from my house.

KSP20
Date of collection of “Water Voice” * 06 March 2003
Region and country where you collected “Water Voice”
Country: * Southeast Asia, CAMBODIA * Trapeang Prey village, Khum Krang Deway, Phnom Sruoch district, Kampong Speu province
Voice Senders: Elderly
Gender of “Voice Senders”: Female
Occupation Type of “Voice Senders”: Agriculture
Key words: Water scarcity, drought, food security

Title: The Shortage of Water and Drought Impact of Forest and Food Security
In the last few years our village is impacted by droughts especially in year 2002 we had a severe drought in the wet season. The rains came very late and provided not enough water to irrigate all rice fields, so our villagers could not cultivate rice as usual. Although we celebrate rainfall ceremonies for two times, but rain did not fall on time. In the past time our area had a lot of rainfall because we had a lot of forest areas. Droughts are may be resulted from deforestation in our area.

The severe drought is leading villagers to increase poverty and food shortage. This year we did not have a good harvest. Thus to get additional foods, many villagers go into the forest and cut down trees for charcoal and fuel wood production which can be sold in the market for buying foods or clothes. They could not find any jobs to substitute this income activity because they are living in the remote area and are hungry.
VI. KAMPONG THOM PROVINCE

KTH1
Date of collection of “Water Voice”* 10 July 2002
Region and country where you collected “Water Voice” * Southeast Asia, CAMBODIA * Stong Town, Stoung district, Kampong Thom province
Voice Senders: Adult
Gender of “Voice Senders:” Male
Occupation Type of “Voice Senders”: Public officer
Keywords: Water security

Title: Water Security
Long time ago, all people who are living in Stong town, Kampong Thom province have suffered from shortage of clean water. Generally, the water from most wells contains chemical elements, which cause many problems to the human health. To solve the above problems, a clean water supply project called “Cambodia 2000 Friendship for Water Security” coordinated by ICS- NGO was established. This project is funded by the EU and Cambodia, Italy and Belgium. Now the project is under the construction and will be finished in July of 2003. People in this town are happy for this, and are waiting for the first clean water supply system that we didn’t have before.

KTH2
Date of collection of “Water Voice” * 21 September 2002
Region and country where you collected “Water Voice” * Southeast Asia, CAMBODIA * Kampong Thom province
Voice Senders: Adult
Gender of “Voice Senders:” Male
Occupation Type of “Voice Senders”: Public Officer
Keywords: Rainfall, historical temple

Title: Heavy Rainfall Affected Cultural Heritage
Prasat Ouk or Prasat Krea or Prasat S2 is one of the Historical Temple among groups of Temples in Prasat Sambor Prey Kuh, that is located in Kampong Thom province. The southern side of this temple's wall felt down by a heavy rainfall that occurred for a week time in this area. The Temple was repaired in the 60th decade, and is going through the natural erosion from time to time. The more than 1000-year-old Temple in this area will be destroyed in the near future, if we do not rescue them on time.
KTH3
Date of collection of “Water Voice” * 27 September 2002
Region and country where you collected “Water Voice” * Southeast Asia, CAMBODIA * Tbung Kraper commune, Stung Sendistrict, Kampong Thom province
Voice Senders: Adult
Gender of “Voice Senders”: Male
Occupation Type of “Voice Senders”: Public Officer
Keywords: Floods

Title: Heavy Rainfall Affected Rainfed Farming
This year, Cambodia has serious natural disaster that affects the livelihoods of the people in the whole country. Some provinces are facing with the water shortage and some are suffering from flood.

Stung Sen's Stream is over-filled with rainwater, and the water spills out to flood the rice fields and is destroying about 5,000 ha of rainfed rice crop and infrastructures in this district. The stream is reaching the top water’s level, about 13.63 m deep, that happened in 1983 and 2000. The problem is due to the heavy rainfall in this area that increased to 99.4 mm in 24 hours, which is higher than in previous year (only 60-70 mm per day).

KTH4
Date of collection of “Water Voice” * 12 December 2002
Region and country where you collected “Water Voice” * Southeast Asia, CAMBODIA * Prasat Sambor district, Kampong Thom province
Voice Senders: Adult
Gender of “Voice Senders”: Male
Occupation Type of “Voice Senders”: Agriculture
Keywords: Drought

Title: Water and Upland Rice Farming
The upland community in Prasat Sambor District has no irrigation system for agricultural production. It depends completely on rainfall. In the last few years, rain did not fall as usual, so the farmers could not cultivate their crops on time. This year, rain did not start until August/September when they just had opportunity to seed. It was almost late to cultivate rice crop, because there will not be enough water for the whole growing period and as it is photosensitive rice variety the farmers expect very bad harvest and food shortage this year.

KTH5
Date of collection of “Water Voice” * 12 December 2002
Region and country where you collected “Water Voice” * Southeast Asia, CAMBODIA * Prasat Sambor district, Kampong Thom province
Voice Senders: Adult
Gender of “Voice Senders”: Male
Occupation Type of “Voice Senders”: Dev. Worker
Keywords: Water security

Title: Upland People have Difficulty to Get Drinking Water
Prasat Sambor district in Kampong Thom province is one of the upland areas, that has a lot of forest and there is a water stream called Stung Sen which flows through the area and provides water for drinking. During wet season, a lot of water flows directly from the forest area into the stream, this water is not clean because it causes diseases such as malaria and diarrhea. Therefore, some villagers use water from traditional wells but most of those well’s water contain calcareous or is being polluted. Most villagers have collected rainwater for drinking but it is not enough for the whole year need.
KTH6
Date of collection of “Water Voice” * 12 December 2002
Region and country where you collected “Water Voice” * Southeast Asia, CAMBODIA * Prasat Sambor district, Kampong Thom province
Voice Senders: Adult
Gender of “Voice Senders”: Male
Occupation Type of “Voice Senders”: Public officer
Keywords: Water security, Water scarcity, Water and health

Title: Upland Villagers Do not Have Access to Clean Water
Forty-five villages in 4 communes (Tang Krasau, Sambor, Chhuk and Koul) are located in Sambor district along the Stung Sen river. These villages could not get enough clean water for domestic use. During the rainy season, the villagers could get water from the river and rainfall for all use but they are facing a water shortage during the dry season. Most of the villagers could not dig good wells that provide enough clean water because the water table is very deep (about 30-40 m deep) especially along the river. On the other hand, well’s water contains calcareous element and is not clean. When digging, most of those wells were broken down because of sandy soil. When the villagers went to the mountainous area they always drink water within that area. This unclean water affects their health. Due to this problem, the villagers should be educated about human health, water and sanitation.

KTH7
Date of collection of “Water Voice” * 16 November 2002
Region and country where you collected “Water Voice” * Southeast Asia, CAMBODIA * Prey Tub village, Chey commune, Kampong Svay district, Kampong Thom province
Voice Senders: Elderly
Gender of “Voice Senders”: Male
Occupation Type of “Voice Senders”: Development Worker
Keywords: Water supply system., Water and health, Water scarcity

Title: Water Situation for People in the Remote Area
Villagers who are living in Prey Tub village, Chey commune, Kampong Svay district, Kampong Thom province are lacking clean water for domestic use because in the village there is no water source: no pond, no lake. During the wet season they collect rainwater or some water from the rice fields for drinking. Water from the rice field is not clean and causes health problems, particularly diarrhea. During dry season they are lacked of drinking water for human as well as for animals. To solve this problem the villagers have dug some wells, but those wells could not last long because of sandy soil. At present, among 125 families they have 4 wells only. Those wells could not provide enough water for every day demand.

KTH8
Date of collection of “Water Voice” * 22 January 2003
Region and country * Southeast Asia * CAMBODIA / Stung Sen district, Kampong Thom province
Who is “Voice Senders”? Adult
Gender of “Voice Senders”: Male
Occupation Type of “Voice Senders”: Students
Key words: Water scarcity

Title: Water Scarcity in Stung Sen District
Stung Sen district is located in Kampong Thom province. Most people in this district are using ground water except few villagers who get access to clean water from provincial water supply system (people that are living around province town).
Most people are using water from tube wells but the water quality is not very clean according to the water’s color (gray). The tube wells could not provide enough water to villagers for using. Furthermore, the traditional open wells that are dug by villagers up to 20 meters deep could not have any water because now the table is very deep.
VII. KAMPOT PROVINCE

KP1
Date of collection of “Water Voice”* 13 July 2002
Region and country where you collected “Water Voice”* Southeast Asia, CAMBODIA * Chum Kiri district, Kampot province
Voice Senders: Adult
Gender of “Voice Senders”: Male
Occupation Type of “Voice Senders”: Student
Key words: Irrigation

Title: Irrigation
We are living in Chum Kiri district which is one of the remote areas of Cambodia that always have some obstacles due to water problem. The people in this area do not have sufficient water for all use, especially for rice farming because of water scarcity. The rain fed farming is depended on the rainfall. Some time the villagers faced the flood that damaged and destroyed their agricultural crops. The problem of water scarcity is due to lack of irrigation system for farming in this area.

KP2
Date of collection of “Water Voice” * 21 May 2002
Region and country where you collected “Water Voice” * Southeast Asia, CAMBODIA * Kampot province
Voice Senders: Adult
Gender of “Voice Senders”: Male
Occupation Type of “Voice Senders”: Public Officer
Key words: Aquatic Plants and Animals

Title: Dugong Fish Will Be Extinct From Cambodia
Dugong fish or Chrouk Samot (Sea pig) in Khmer term, is one of seldom fishes in the world and is prohibited to catch in Cambodia. In the past time during 50th decade, there were many Dugong fishes, which came to eat sea grass in the sea feeding area of Kampot province usually during July and August between Koh Krang and Koh Kteah islands, particularly in the Gulf of Thailand. In the last few years, number of these fishes has reduced remarkably. Last year 4 to 5 Dugong fishes have been caught by fishermen, and this year we could not find any of them. The problem may be due to anarchical fishing and the sea grasses in the feeding area have seriously destroyed by fishing equipment such as push-nets.

To protect these fish species, the Department of Fisheries should educate and disseminate the importance of these fish species to the local people and fishermen. The Dugong will be extinct from Cambodia in 3 or 5 years ahead, if we do not protect or conserve them.

KP3
Date of collection of “Water Voice”: 30 January 2003
Country/Region/Area: Cambodia/ Southeast Asia/ Preak Kampong Bay, Kampot town
Voice Sender’s Age: Adult
Voice Sender’s Gender: Male
Voice Sender’s Occupation: Public Officer
Key words: Floods
Title: Soil Erosion
Preak Kampong Bay is one of the rivers that flows across the provincial town. The Preak Kampong Bay River is shallower from year to year. The problem comes from the siltation caused by deforestation in the higher areas of Bokor and Kamchay Mountains, and a constructed dam in the Keo River during the Pol Pot regime. This siltation blocked the rivers, when building a road from Andong Khmer commune to Treuy Koh Pagoda. As the sedimentation occurred, the Kampong Bay River is becoming shallower that leads to flood in the Kampot town every year, riverbank erosion and changing water flow. These problems affect poor people the most.
VIII. KANDAL PROVINCE

KD1
Date of collection of “Water Voice” * March 2002
Region and country where you collected “Water Voice”
* Southeast Asia, CAMBODIA * Kabal Koh, Phum Thom, Koki, Koh Prak, Dey Eth Villages/commune, Kien Svay district, Kandal province
Voice senders: Group of villagers

Title: Water issues in Kien Svay district at the down stream Mekong River
All people in Kabal Koh, Phum Thom, Koki, Koh Prak, Dey Eth Villages get water from some sources such as rivers, lakes, ponds, waterpumps, wells and rainfall. There are some issues related to water such as:
- The river water has been polluted from human activities such as tourism and small industries’ waste water;
- There is lack of clean water supply;
- Rainfall is not regularly distributed and the raining time is changing;
- Frequency of flood destroys most agricultural production and impacts on human and animal health, therefore, it leads to increase the poverty;
- Water quality of the tube-well water is very poor, it contains calcareous elements;
- The water table of the ground water is reducing.

The strategies to get the water are drilling tube well and fetching or pumping the river water that is far away from the village.

KD2
Date of collection of “Water Voice” * March 2002
Region and country where you collected “Water Voice” * Southeast Asia, CAMBODIA * Sre Ampil, Prek Dong, Chheou Tel, Kompong Svay, Prek Thmey and other village under Boeung Thom Water Basin villages, Kien Svay district, Kandal province
Voice sender: Villagers

Title: Water issues in Kien Svay district along the Basac River
Villagers in this area have access to water from Basac river, small rivers (Prek), lakes, ponds, waterpumps, wells and rainfall. At the same time, they are facing water issues, such as:
- Water of the Bassac river has been polluted, especially from human activities such as tourism, small industries polluted water and domestic waste water from Phnom Penh capital city;
- Lack of clean water supplies;
- Rainfall is not regularly distributed and the raining time is changing;
- Frequency of flood destroys most agricultural production and impacts on human and animal health, therefore, it leads to increase the poverty;
- Water quality of the tube-well water is very poor, it contains calcareous elements;
- The water table of the ground water is reducing;
- Lack of good water management and contribution from the Governor of Boeung Thom water basin to the rice farmers in the down stream of the basin;
- Some conflict between farmers in obtaining water to irrigate the rice crop have been happening
The strategies to get water are drilling more private tube wells and fetching or pumping the river water that is far away from the village.

**Title: Issues of water in Samrong Thom District**
The villagers in Samrong Thom district use the river, small rivers (Prek), ponds, waterpumps, wells and rainfall as their water sources. However, they are facing the following issues such as:

- lack of clean water supplies;
- Raining time is changing;
- River water is changing every year. In the last few year extreme flooding destroyed mostly agricultural production and impact on human and animal health, and in some years the water level of the river was very low that the water could not flow into the water reservoirs so the farmers did not have enough water to irrigate their crops;
- Water quality of pump-well is very poor, some of them are calcareous;
- Ground water is deep

Their strategy to get water was pump-well, but only a small number of people have opportunities to drill private pump well.

**Title: water issues in Mukkampoul district**
The water sources in my village are River, small rivers (Prek), ponds, waterpumps, wells and rainfall. The villagers are facing the following issues:

- lack of clean water supplies;
- Raining time is changing;
- River water is changing every year. In the last few year extreme flood destroyed most agricultural production and affected human and animal health. While some years the water level of the river was very low, there was no water reserved in the reservoir, so the farmers did not have enough water to irrigate their crops;
- Water quality of the tube well water is very poor, some of them are calcareous;
- Ground water is exhausted;
- River water quality is going to be polluted from the human activities.

Some options to get water are tube well and rainfall. However, only a small number of people have opportunities to drill private tube well. They need assistance to drill wells and ponds, and clean water supply.
Title: Water issues in Koh Toch village

Generally, the water sources in my village are River, small rivers (Prek), lakes, ponds, waterpumps, wells and rainfall. We are facing the following issues:

- Water of the Bassac river has been polluted from human activities such as tourism, small industries and domestic waste water from Phnom Penh capital city;
- Lack of clean water supplies;
- Rainfall is not regularly distributed and raining time is changing;
- Frequency of flood destroys most agricultural production and impacts on human and animal health, therefore, it leads to increasing poverty;
- Water quality of the tube-well water is very poor, it contains calcareous elements;
- The water table of the ground water is reducing;
- There are some conflicts between farmers in obtaining water to irrigate the rice crop

The strategies to get water have been more private tube wells, pumping the water from the river that is located far away to irrigate their rice crop (but that costs a lot of money), some people go away from home place to find new jobs. The living standard of the farmers depends on the water availability in the river basin. We need help to repair the existing water dam and develop a very good water management.

Title: Floods and Dams

Since 1991 the people who are living along the Prek Thnaut River have suffered from flood every year. The bad flood caused severe damage to the properties, crops and rice production, houses, road, bridges, livestock; riverbank erosion and some time lost of human lives. After flooding, many villagers faced a food shortage, lack of clean water, disease, and consequently serious starvation as the living condition is getting worse. This problem is due to the destruction of the dam from the flood and the strong water flow when there was heavy rainfall in the upstream.

To solve the above problem, the Ministry of Water Resources and Meteorology uses ADB fund to construct water gate, reconstruct the Canal No 90 and the Prek Thnaut River dam to mitigate the flooding. This dam can be used in two ways, one as the flooding mitigation measures and two as the village road.
 KD7

Date of collection of “Water Voice”* 20 July 2002
Region and country where you collected “Water Voice” * Southeast Asia, CAMBODIA * Preak Cheang Prum
village, Veal Sbov Commune, Kean Svay district, Kandal province
Voice Senders: Elderly
Gender of “Voice Senders”: Male
Occupation Type of “Voice Senders”: Agriculture
Keywords: Floods

Title: Issue in Clean Water, Flood and Riverbank Erosion
After Pol Pot regime in 1979, the villagers from different places came to resettle again along the Mekong River
in this village. Most villagers grow vegetable and the rests take different jobs. They took water from the river for
all use especially for cooking and drinking. After 1998, a private company has provided clean water supply for
this area but some villagers are still using river water because they cannot afford to pay the clean water.
Our villagers also suffer a lot from the flood. Since 1998, the villagers couldn’t plant crops or vegetables any
more. The flood damaged the crops and destroyed our agricultural lands, soil, houses, and caused riverbank
erosion. Many villagers are resettled in other places and some are stilling and will not cultivate the land any
more because they afraid that the flood will destroy their crops and waste their capital and time for nothing.

KD8

Date of collection of “Water Voice”* 5 August 2002
Region and country where you collected “Water Voice” * Southeast Asia, CAMBODIA* Chheu Khmau, Koh
Thum district, Kandal province
Voice Senders: Elderly
Gender of “Voice Senders”: Female,
Occupation Type of “Voice Senders”: Agriculture,
Keywords: Rivers/River basin Management

Title: Riverbank Erosion
In the last 20 years, our villagers have suffered from many natural disaster flood and drought and during the
flooding season we are facing the riverbank erosion. From year to year we are losing our mainland (agricultural
field that is located along the Mekong River) into the water and our agricultural field become smaller than
before. As you know we are farmers and our livelihood depends on land and water. The problem of riverbank
erosion in our village may come from the rapid water flow, strong waves and the expansion of island in the river
opposite to the village, that is narrowing the water way and increasing the water flow.

KD9

Date of collection of “Water Voice”* 6 August 2002
Region and country where you collected “Water Voice” * Southeast Asia, CAMBODIA * Roka Khpuos
commune, Saang district, Kandal province
Voice Senders: Elderly
Gender of “Voice Senders”: Male, Female
Occupation Type of “Voice Senders”: Agriculture, Fishing
Keywords: Dams

Title: Dam
In the last few years, the fishermen like us could earn about $5 to $7.50 per day from fishing but this year we
earn nothing. Our livelihood this year has been disturbed by two factors: one is a dam built on the Prek Tey
stream that keeps the fish away, and two is illegal use of electric fishing tools to catch fish. (fisherman Oun
Own, 39-year-old).
At the same time we cannot even grow rice once a year, because the dam built under Pol Pot regime is broken, so it does not allow us to store the water for dry season rice cultivation. While the Prek Tey dam makes the fields flooded so badly we cannot plant wet season rice (farmer Oun Taem, 50 years).

We want to widen the path and dredge the Prek Tey stream so it will not flood.

**KD10**

Date of collection of “Water Voice” * 02 September 2002  
**Region and country where you collected “Water Voice”** * Southeast Asia, CAMBODIA * Kien Svay district, Kampong Svay commune, Kandal province  
Voice Senders: Adult  
Gender of “Voice Senders”: Male  
Occupation Type of “Voice Senders”: Public Officer  
Keywords: Sanitation, Floods  

**Title: Flood Season, Water and Health**

During flood season, most people who are living along the river and flooding area faced clean water shortage so they use the flooding water without any treatment. During this time, the water quality of the river is decreased noticeably due to polluted wastes from houses, farms, industry, and handicraft that flow into the river. This produced serious impacts on health of the people who use the river water for cooking or drinking directly, especially on children. They encountered disease such as skin infection, stomach and liver problems, etc.

**KD11**

Date of collection of “Water Voice” * 24 January 2003  
Region and country: * Southeast Asia, CAMBODIA * Preak Ta Ton village, Preah Prasab commune, Khsach Kandal district, Kandal province  
Who is “Voice Senders”? Adult  
Gender of “Voice Senders” Male  
Occupation Type of “Voice Senders”: Villager  
Key words: Land resources, river bank erosion  

**Title: River’s People Lose their Land due to Riverbank Erosion**

Preak Ta Ton village is located in Preah Prasab commune, Khsach Kandal district, Kandal province along the Mekong River. This village has been affected seriously from Riverbank erosion. During the last 20 years, hundreds hectares of agricultural land and homeland have been collapsed into the river and this is leading the villagers to lose their land for agricultural production and living. Every year, the erosion is taking about 5 meters of parallel land along the Mekong River. The every year’s problem of riverbank erosion is caused by strong water flow during flooding season and the village is located at a place where the river bends. At the same time, the navigation of speedboats in the river has created big and strong waves to hit the riverbank. We are afraid about the riverbank erosion because we will lose our land in the future.
**Title: River’s People Face Flooding Problem**

Prek Ta Ton village is located in Preah Prasab commune, Khsach Kandal district, Kandal province along the Mekong River and has affected seriously from annual flooding. For long time, this area has met floods but once within 12 years when the Mekong River was very high. In the last four years, the villagers have suffered from annual flooding every year and their livelihood, agricultural production, infrastructure, and properties have been affected seriously.

The flooding problem come from: (i) the Mekong level was higher than the village, and (ii) It may come from the less water ways along the road to Kunlong Commune to release flooding water from this area. The villagers have built a small dam to protect floods from the Mekong River every year so that can temporarily mitigate floods in their village.

**Title: Changing Practices to Cope with Irregular Rainfall**

Generally, rice farming in Cambodia is rainfed system, and the farmers grew their rice crop by following the rainfall pattern. In the past, the farmers could follow well in their rice cropping because rainfall tended to be more regular according to the season. At present, rainfall distribution is very irregular and uncertain, therefore the farmers cannot follow its pattern any more. To cope with the climate change, the farmers have to use the water-pump to get the water from the swamp or other water sources as much as they can do to irrigate their rice crop.

**Title: Fish Paste Production, Part of Farmers’ Life in Cambodia**

Between late December and January in Cambodia, group of farmers move to the Mekong River for fish paste production activities after finishing their rice harvest. This has been part of their life for a long time, and it becomes an interesting culture. It is nice that we could come to the riverside for preparing fish paste, because we could change from rice environment to the river environment where things are different. By so doing, life seems
to be complete and meaningful, because we met and interact with fishermen and river people, buy or exchange rice with fish, and enjoy abundant fresh fish.

**KD15**

Date of collection of “Water Voice” * 14 January 2003  
Region and country: * Southeast Asia/ * CAMBODIA, Phnhie Leuo District, Kandal Province  
Who is “Voice Senders”? Adult  
Gender of “Voice Senders” Men  
Occupation Type of “Voice Senders”: Fisherman  
Key words: Bagnet fishing, Mekong River  

**Title: Yield of Bagnet Fishing is Reduced this Year**

Bagnet fishing in Khmer term “Dai fishing” is a way of fishing when tons of fish migrate in the Mekong River during December and January. Compared to last year, fish catch is lower and this is a big concern for us.

**KD16**

Date of collection of “Water Voice” * 12 January 2003  
Region and country: * Southeast Asia/ * CAMBODIA, Kbal Chroy Village, Prek Eng Commune, Kandal Province  
Who is “Voice Senders”? Adult  
Gender of “Voice Senders” Female  
Occupation Type of “Voice Senders”: Fish seller  
Key words: Big fish market, fermented fish  

**Title: Low Supply of Big Fishes for Market this Year**

This year, the supply of big fishes such as Trey Chkauk and Trey Khaek (fresh water carp), Trey Pra and Trey Ke, etc. is very low. People need to buy these fishes (from 10 to 20 Kg at least per household) for preparing fermented fish “Phaok”, but we could not satisfy their demands. We hope that things will change for next year.

**KD17**

Date of collection of “Water Voice”*: 11 February 2003  
Country: * CAMBODIA, * Village No 7, Sampov Poun commune, Koh Thum district, Kandal province  
Voice Senders: Adult  
Gender of “Voice Senders”: Male  
Occupation Type of “Voice Senders”: Public Officer  
Key Words: Water and health, pollution
Title: Water and Health
The village is located along Preak Seung River. There are about 70% of villagers who use the water from the river and about 30% use water from the tube wells for their every day need. In the dry season, the river is shallow, the water is not flowing and very muddy. Most villagers drink raw water directly without boiling. Using of the polluted water can affect their health. With the low income from agricultural production, they could not cover the high expenses for medicine.

KD18
Date of collection of “Water Voice” * 03 January 2003
Region and country * Southeast Asia* CAMBODIA * Boeung Krum village/ commune Lvea Aem district, Kandal province.
Who is “Voice Senders”? Child
Gender of “Voice Senders” Male
Occupation Type of “Voice Senders”: Student
Key words: Water security, food security, water and poverty, and wetlands

Title: Livelihood of Children along the River
Boeung Krum village is one of the villages that are located along Tonle Toch River. Most people in that area are farmers and their additional job is fishing. Their livelihood is depending on the water around that area. To help their families, children have taken many activities after or before school time.

The daily water activity of the children begins from early morning of the day and late afternoon, carrying water to irrigate vegetables or other crops. In the afternoon after school time they go fishing at some lakes to support their families. Tum Rasmey, 11 years, said that he has a lot of daily work to do every day and almost has no time to rest. He is living in a very poor family. He continued “I am tired of carrying water and especially do fishing because I need to stay many hours in the water to catch fishes”.


IX. KEP CITY

KC1
Date of collection of “Water Voice” * 20 December 2002
Region and country where you collected “Water Voice” * Southeast Asia, CAMBODIA * Sang Kat Angkoil, KepCity
Voice Senders: Adult
Gender of “Voice Senders”: Male
Occupation Type of “Voice Senders”: Public Officer
Key words: Water scarcity

Title: Fresh Water Shortage in the Coastal City
Kep City is one of the coastal cities that have shortage of surface water for water supply in the dry season. People who are living at Sangkat Angkoil including Toul Sorngram, Ampeng and Angkoil villages cannot dig wells to get fresh water for daily use during the whole year, because ground water tastes sour and salty. For this reason, people have difficulty to live in this area. Angkoil is about 15 to 20 km away from Kep municipality. People in this area have to collect drinking water from up to 13 km distance. To provide sufficient fresh water, it needs to connect clean water supply from Kep center (Por Horng dam) to the villages as soon as possible.
X. KOH KONG PROVINCE

KK1
Date of collection of “Water Voice” * 21 May 2002
Region and country where you collected “Water Voice” * Southeast Asia, CAMBODIA* Koh Kong province
Voice Senders: Adult
Gender of “Voice Senders: Male
Occupation Type of “Voice Senders”: Public Officer
Key words: Water and Health

Title: Water and Health in Koh Kong Province
Most areas in Koh Kong province, especially the remote areas are facing shortage of clean and fresh water. People who are living in those areas have used rainwater during rainy season, and during the dry season they have bought water, which is collected from ravines, or they use water from ponds or large holes where soil has been excavated for sale. Animals such as cows or water buffalos have polluted most of these water sources that are located far from the villages. Usually rainwater that flows into the ponds got mixed with dirty substances. Furthermore, infectious diseases have spread from place to place since people go to do farming far from their residence and have used ravine’s water or water remained in natural holes for cooking, drinking and washing.

All factors above caused waterborne diseases such as abdominal pain, cholera, dysentery, and itches etc. because most people have to drink water directly without boiling. Another reason is that people drank polluted water, which is mixed with rotting leaves or other substances.
XI. KRATIE PROVINCE

KT1
Date of collection of “Water Voice” ∗ 28 September 2002
Region and country where you collected “Water Voice” ∗ South East Asia, CAMBODIA ∗ Stron village, kbal Damrei commune, Sambour district, Kratie province
VoiceSenders: Adult
Gender of “Voice Senders”: Male
Occupation Type of “Voice Senders”: Public Officer
Key words: Pollution

Title: Water Pollution from Gold-Mining Activity
According to the voice of a public officer of Kratie province, in the Tron village, Kbal Domrei commune there is an exploitation of gold-mining area about 10 square kilometers from the provincial town. From the mining area, the chemical waste is discharged to the water streams that flow into the Preak Kampy Stream. Many villagers and animals that are living around that area have been suffering from the polluted activity. The gold-miners have used a chemical element called “Cyanure” (Cyanide) that is imported from Vietnam to purify their found mining gold.

Recently, many cattle have died and some villagers have serious illness because they drink the polluted water in the streams. Further more a lot of fishes that used to live in the Preak Kampy stream have been extinguished, especially a 15 kg seldom-fresh water dolphin died recently.
XII. ODAR MEANCHEY PROVINCE

OMC1
Date of collection of “Water Voice”* 15 June 2002
Region and country where you collected “Water Voice”* Southeast Asia, CAMBODIA * O’Smach town, Oddar Meanchey province
Voice Senders: Adult
Gender of “Voice Senders: Male
Occupation Type of “Voice Senders”: Agriculture
Key words: Water Scarcity, Water and Health

Title: Water Scarcity and Health
We live in the border town of O’Smach, and we have big problem with lack of clean water supply. Clean water is our constant complains for the area. We consume muddy water from a dirty canal at a price of about US$ 0.70 per barrel and it is very expensive for our living standard. We face a lack of clean water, and the water that we have is too dirty to drink.

Now a Dutch NGO called ZOA recently dug the first large reservoir in O’Smach, but it will not start filling with rainwater until the rainy season comes.
XIII. PAILIN CITY

PL1
Date of collection of “Water Voice”* April 2002
Region and country where you collected “Water Voice” * Southeast Asia, CAMBODIA* Phasa Prum village, Sangkat Chhoeu Kach, Pailin City
Voice sender: Villager

Title: Water issues in the Pailin village
Rainfall and buying clean water from Thailand have been the sources of water in this village. Overall, we are facing several issues in water which are:

- Lack of clean water supplies;
- Raining time is changing;
- Lack of water for all use;
- Water is expensive.
- All natural water sources are seriously polluted;
- Water from the tube well is calcareous and stink.

The strategies to solve the above issues have been the following:

- minimise water use;
- waiting for rainfall;
- buying clean water for drinking from Thailand and water for other use from local area.

We need clean water supply and call for help to solve this problem.

PL2
Date of collection of “Water Voice”* April 2002
Region and country where you collected “Water Voice” * Southeast Asia, CAMBODIA * O’ Chhoeu Krom village, Sangkat Chhoeu Kach, Pailin City
Voice sender: Villager

Rainfall and small river are water sources for our village. However, the following issues are our concerns:

- lack of clean water supplies;
- Raining time is changing;
- Water of the O’chhoeu Krom small river is very polluted from two casinos that is located at the border that affects human health;
- All natural water sources are seriously polluted.
- Landmines are located at any water sources.

The strategies to solve the problems have been:

- minimise water use;
- waiting for rainfall;
- Buying clean water from Thailand and water for other uses from local area.

We need clean water supply and call for help to solve this problem.
XIV. PHNOM PENH CITY

PP1
Date of collection of “Water Voice”* 02 July 2002
Region and country where you collected “Water Voice”
* Southeast Asia, CAMBODIA * Village/Commune Kilometer No 6, Khan Ruessei Kaov, Phnom Penh
Voice Senders: Erderly
Gender of “Voice Senders:” Male
Occupation Type of “Voice Senders”: Major of Village
Keywords: Pollution

Title: Water Pollution from Industry and Health
In the last several years, the chemical wastes from garment factories have been dumped into the Tonle Sap River. People who live near Kilometer No 6 Area along the National Road No 5 feel aching when they took bath in the river. We have faced this situation for several years but we can’t do anything about that. Our villagers have complained about the pollution and how it has seriously affected the environment and people’s health.

PP2
Date of collection of “Water Voice”* 10 July 2002
Region and country where you collected “Water Voice” * Southeast Asia, CAMBODIA * Phnom Penh City
Voice Senders: Adult
Gender of “Voice Senders:” Male
Occupation Type of “Voice Senders”: Public Officer
Keywords: Rivers/River basin Management

Title: River Basin Management
Long time ago, the Basac River at the Phnom Penh City was very large and deep. In that time we had no frequency of serious seasonal flooding. In the last 10 years, the river has been changing from large to narrow and shallower than before, and during the wet season the water flows very fast. In the last few years, we suffered from flooding frequently. The flood affected the human and animal lives, human health; damaged and destructed agricultural crops, infrastructures and property of the people.

These problems may come from the riverbank erosion in the upstream, the land filling in some parts of the Basac River to expand the mainland for other purpose such as public parks or buildings and the emerging and expansion of island in the middle of the river from year to year.

PP3
Date of collection of “Water Voice”* 10 July 2002
Region and country where you collected “Water Voice” * Southeast Asia, CAMBODIA * Russei Koev district, Phnom Penh City
Voice Senders: Adult
Gender of “Voice Senders:” Male
Occupation Type of “Voice Senders”: Fishing
Keywords: Aquatic plants and animals, Ecosystem
Title: Ecosystem
We are fishermen who live along the Tonle Sap River and have been fishing for a long time. Many years ago, the river has a lot of fish and we had no difficulty to feed our family with our fishing job. In the last 10 years, the fish population has been dropping down from year to year and we have difficulty to generate income from fishing to feed our family. Our live is going harder in doing our job in the river. We do not know exactly the reasons that cause decrease of fish population. It may be soil erosion that creates siltation in the river, or illegal over-fishing, or cutting of inundated forest that destroys fish habitats, or due to increase of population and demands. We are uneducated people, we do not know about the cause and effect, but we know about the increasing siltation in the river and we have less fishes to harvest at present.

PP4
Date of collection of “Water Voice”* 2 August 2002
Region and country where you collected “Water Voice” * Southeast Asia, CAMBODIA * Dangkao district, Phnom Penh City
Voice Senders: Adult
Gender of “Voice Senders”: Female
Occupation Type of “Voice Senders”: Agriculture,
Keywords: Drought

Title: Drought
Every day in the last few months we have looked up to the sky to see if there is a sign of rainfall to come. But the sky never gives any glimmer of hope to our farmers. Our rice fields are getting extremely dry and more than half the rice seedlings on the small pieces of those fields have become parched and it can be burned with the cigarette butt. We are living in one of the worst hit areas of this year's drought. We are very worried about our livelihood in next year if this keeps up. The problem is due to the natural disaster and we are lacked of irrigation facilities.

PP5
Date of collection of “Water Voice”* 2 August 2002
Region and country where you collected “Water Voice” * Southeast Asia, CAMBODIA * Taing Roniem village, Dangkao district, Phnom Penh City
Voice Senders: Elderly
Gender of “Voice Senders”: Female
Occupation Type of “Voice Senders”: Agriculture,
Keywords: Droughts

Title: Drought
For many villagers, water shortage is a severe problem. San Phirum, a 56-years farmer, the mother of nine children said her family has just endured two years of flooding. Last year, I lost more than half rice production to the flood. So we did not have enough to eat. And after the flood, we suffered from new enemy “The Drought”. She said again that she has not seen a drought like this one in many years. The problem may due to the climate change and the lack of irrigation system in this area.

PP6
Date of collection of “Water Voice”* 16 August 2002
Region and country where you collected “Water Voice” * Southeast Asia, CAMBODIA * Phnom Penh City
Voice Senders: Elderly
Gender of “Voice Senders”: Male
Occupation Type of “Voice Senders”: Public Officer
Keywords: Drought
Title: Drought and Praying for Rain
After the draught in 1997, this year Cambodia is experiencing a drought within wet season. The nationwide drought has produced great effect on south-central provinces of the country. It will likely cause extreme food shortages as rice crops fail. Based on historical buddhistic document and belief of Buddhism, a praying for rainfall ceremony is holding 2 days from 16-17 August this year at the pagoda Wat Ounalom, Phnom Penh city. According to the advice from the Senior Monk, the praying for rainfall ceremony that is called Tesna Mahacheat, will be held in the whole country. In Cambodia, people believe in Buddha and some tutelary spirits. For this ceremony, the monk will preach traditional Buddhist Document to pray for rain to God of Rain. The goal of the ceremony is to pray for rain to fall in the Kingdom of Cambodia to help the farmers who are suffering a severe water shortage for agriculture. This ceremony will be held also in the countryside.

PP7
Date of collection of “Water Voice”* 15 August 2002
Region and country where you collected “Water Voice”* Southeast Asia, CAMBODIA* Khan Chamcar
Mon, Phnom Penh city
Voice Senders: Child
Gender of “Voice Senders: Female
Occupation Type of “Voice Senders”: Pupil
Keywords: Floods, Pollution

Title: Water Pollution and Pupil
We are pupils who are learning at the Primary School of Village No 7. We have had difficulty to go to school or come back home during rainy season. The school's field is always flooded after rainfall, this is causing many problems for the pupils and teachers because we have to walk through in the polluted water to school and return home. Many pupils have skin infection, and the school’s well is filled with polluted water, which leads to clean water shortage. The problem is that the school is located in lowland and there is no drainage system in this area. The rainwater has been stilled for long time in the school’s field and mixed with wastes and it is also converted to polluted water.

PP8
Date of collection of “Water Voice”* 23 August 2002
Region and country where you collected “Water Voice”* Southeast Asia, CAMBODIA * Phnom Penh City
Voice Senders: Adult
Gender of “Voice Senders: Male
Occupation Type of “Voice Senders”: Public officer
Keywords: Floods, drought, food security

Title: Natural Disaster and Food Security
Cambodia may have already lost more than $38 million to this year’s drought. An assessment of the damage to this year’s rainy-season rice crop, estimated that about $1.5 million worth to the seedlings and paddy rice damaged mostly by drought and some by flood. Meanwhile, drought and flood are continuing and losses could be more than three times the $38 million estimate.

Due to the above problems, the price of rice has increased quickly and many people have been affected particularly Cambodia’s poor farmers, who live off the land and may face food shortages.

People who are living in the drought area have requested the Government to raise funds to provide them more water access. That would be better than handling out small donations every day. Water is not only good for rice farming, it will help people to grow seasonal fruits. On the other hand, people who are living in the flood areas are requesting the government to build some dams and water reservoirs to mitigate the flood.
Title: Ceremony to Predict Rainfall for the Next Coming Year

Cambodia is a least developed country where more than 80% of total population is farmers. Most of the agricultural production depends on rainwater especially rice production. Generally, every year in November during the full moon day (one of the 12th month of Buddhist Calendar), there is a ceremony to forecast the rainfall in the whole country for the next coming year. This festival is held in the Royal Palace in Phnom Penh City. For forecasting the rainfall they prepare sacred candles, each of them to represent one province or city. So there were 24 candles for 24 provinces. After praying to the God, all the candles which are inserted to a long bamboo stick were lighted and the bamboo stick was circled for three times, then were left to drop its drips on the banana leaves until they were exhausted. During the dropping of drips from the candles, the predictor needs to observe it carefully, and after that he could predict the rainfall for the next year on the basis of the flows of the drips of the 24 candles. The drips of candles collected on the banana leaves make different forms of pictures and are translated into meanings of the impacts of rainfall performance on agriculture, people livelihood and environment. For example, the shape of rice pile means good harvest, the scattered shape of wax means poor harvest, etc. This is a long-standing festival, and much-loved tradition in the country. This festival is a part of the full moon praying ceremony and water festival.

In the countryside, people celebrate this ceremony for their predicting rainfall on the commune or district level. They do it in the pagoda or in some cases in the village, and tend to be at mid night. According to the farmers when the ceremony started, in general a light rainfall occurred briefly; and the results of the ceremony were more or less accurate, but today it is no longer the same.

Title: Trey Tbork: A Type of Fish which may be Disappeared from the Mekong Basin

Many kinds of important fish species are going to be disappeared from the Mekong River basin because of the human activities. A type of fresh water-fish that is called in local name “Trey Tbork” is decreasing a lot and may be disappeared from the Mekong Basin. The cause of the reduction of this fish specie is not clear; it may be from over fishing or irregular water flow. Anyway the fishing of Trey Tbork is prohibited at present time.

Before the 90th, we could find a lot of this fish species in the Tonle Sap River. Some years later, the number of this fish has decreased remarkably. Trey Tbork is one of the treating fish species by fishing and it is very
important to be conserved. All local fishermen should protect and conserve the fish habitats, and stop over fishing by illegal instruments.

**PP11**

Date of collection of “Water Voice” * 09 November 2002  
Region and country where you collected “Water Voice” * Southeast Asia, CAMBODIA * Phnom Penh  
Voice Senders: Adult  
Gender of “Voice Senders”: Male  
Occupation Type of “Voice Senders”: Public Officer  
Key words: Ecosystem

**Title: 34 Aquatic Animals Will Extinct from the Mekong Basin**

About 34 kinds of important aquatic animals are facing to be disappeared from the Mekong River because of the human activities. According to the Department of Fisheries, nowadays 34 aquatic animals are facing to become extinct from the Mekong River. This includes 18 water birds species and amphibian animals including dolphin.

One of very large fresh-water fishes that is called in local name as “Trey Riaj” which used to live in the Mekong River and is weighted up to 200 kg seldom can be seen at present. About 174 million tons of fresh-water fish resource of the Mekong River basin has been caught every year with an income of about one thousand million US dollars.

Usually the livelihood of Cambodian people who are living in the Mekong River basin is depended on fishing to fulfill their food demands because fishes contain more protein to support human bodies (Rasmei Kampuchea Newspaper, No 2906).

**PP12**

Date of collection of “Water Voice” * 13 November 2002  
Region and country where you collected “Water Voice” * Southeast Asia CAMBODIA * Phnom Penh  
Voice Senders: Adult  
Gender of “Voice Senders”: Male  
Occupation Type of “Voice Senders”: Public officer  
Key words: Other

**Title: No Water, no life**

All lives in the earth need water daily to support their bodies. Water is very important element that we could not live without it, so we need to save and conserve the water. Although our world has a lot of water but many people are suffering from the water shortage, they could not get enough clean water to drink especially the people who are living in the least developed countries. It means that no water no life no everything.
**Title: Rice Production and Climate Change**

According to the recent study, changes in rice production in Cambodia are significantly correlated to the climate variability particularly due to the occurrence of floods and droughts. The major rice growing areas of the Mekong and Tonle Sap watershed are flooded every year, but in some years, extreme flooding causes serious problems. For examples:

- Extended period of flood in the Mekong and Tonle Sap areas have ruined deepwater rice crops.
- During recent El-Nino and La-Nina years (1997-98), Cambodia experienced a prolonged dry season, followed by a month of heavy rains resulting in flash floods that destroyed rice crops.
- In agricultural areas where temporary flooding occurs, floods cause serious germination problems to some direct-seeded rice and most upland crops including legumes.

**Title: Clean Water is an Important Key to Improve the Public Health**

Clean water is an indicator to measure the living standard of people and poverty reduction in the society. Clean water supply system and hygiene is one of the main focuses in poverty reduction of the Royal government of Cambodia. Clean water supply is an important key to improve the public health", use of unclean water impacted on heath and finance of the people and some times caused to death, especially children. Due to the importance of water for national economy and for poverty reduction, the Royal Government has set up policies in water resources to increase clean water supply in urban and rural areas for solving the main issues of poverty, to ensure food security and improve public heath of people.

**Title: The Clean Water Supply System in Cambodia**

Even though Cambodia has a lot of water resources but opportunity of people to get clean water is limited, especially, people who are living in the rural areas. Approximately 24% of rural people have access to clean water.
For Phnom Penh capital city, 100% of the people who are living in the city’s center (4 districts) are getting clean water supply, and approximately 50% of the people who are living at the outskirts of the city have an opportunity to get it.

Nowadays, about 60 percents of Cambodian people who are living in small towns or cities have direct access to clean water from Clean Water Supply Agencies. The rest (about 40%) are getting water from intermediaries or from other sources, however, its water quality is not guaranteed.

**PP16**

Date of collection of “Water Voice” * 18 December 2002  
Region and country where you collected “Water Voice” * Southeast Asia, CAMBODIA * Phnom Penh City  
Voice Senders: Adult  
Gender of “Voice Senders”: Male  
Occupation Type of “Voice Senders”: Development Worker  
Key Words: Water Supply System  

**Title: Collect Water for Domestic Use Is a Duty of Women and Children**  
In the rural areas, to get water for daily use it takes a lot of people time and power, because it needs to collect and transport the water from different water sources, which are located in long distance from the home place. Collecting water tends to be operated by women and children and it has been one of their heavy burdens in rural Cambodia. This duty can affects the learning/schooling time of rural children, particularly during the dry season. Rural people have expressed their willingness to get clean water supply for their areas. In their view, if this can be achieved in the future, it will be a successful rural development.

**PP17**

Date of collection of “Water Voice” * 20 December 2002  
Region and country where you collected “Water Voice” * Southeast Asia, CAMBODIA * Phnom Penh City  
Voice Senders: Adult  
Gender of “Voice Senders”: Male  
Occupation Type of “Voice Senders”: Public Officer  
Key words: Pollution  

**Title: Water Pollution and Livelihood**  
Currently, the management of waste by the government is limited so many factories and handicrafts are discharged non-treated wastewater or wastes directly into the water sources such as rivers, lakes or streams anarchically. These practices are causing serious pollution to the natural water.  

Established new factories along the Mekong and Tonle Sap rivers are increasing remarkably. Most of them are not treated their wastewater before discharging it into the natural water sources.  

Furthermore, the increasing of urban population is one of the main causes of water pollution because increasing of their demands is leading to increase wastes. Many houses are floated on the rivers and they discharge wastewater and solid wastes directly into the rivers.
Title: Water Use at Some Schools Have Been Changed

Water is vital that cannot be lacked in daily domestic and other uses. I would like to tell you how important is the water use at schools. Every day, all schools need water for pupils/students to use in toilets, for washing hands and others. Most schools in Phnom Penh city have used water from the clean water supply system, while in the outskirts of the city schools are using water from the wells or ponds.

Recently, many primary schools in the Phnom Penh city has changed to use ground water by pumping from the tube wells, and some schools could not get ground water because the ground water in those schools’ areas is very deep.

The reason for changing from using water supply to ground water, is due to the changing of water price’s tariff from water authority, which is based on the quantity of water has been used. Thus some schools that cannot afford to pay for the water have to use ground water, which is free. In average, each school has paid between 195,000 to 240,000 RIELS (50 –62 US$) monthly for water. If they drill a small tube well, they just need to pay about US$ 60 at once only and they can have free of charge water all the time.

Title: Water and Health

Brayab village is located near the Phnom Penh city, but people are lacking of clean water for their daily use. Usually the villagers get water from Brayab Lake that contains polluted elements for cooking and drinking. The water of this lake is smelly because of decayed plants or greases in the water.

This area is developing slowly so we could not get clean water supply from Phnom Penh water supply authority. We have been waiting for so long to get clean water. One can imagine how difficult to get water for cooking or washing during dry season. The villagers must go to collect water from everywhere.
**Title: Domestic Wastewater Impacts on Human Health**

Currently, the wastewater management from household in the cities and provincial towns in Cambodia is very weak. All the large urban areas have sewage systems that are connected directly from households, commercial centers or toilets and discharge the wastewater into the natural water sources or rivers without treatment. The majority of those sewage systems have been broken down over the past three decades of civil war and about 80% are still damaged. The majority of citizen who are living around the polluted water sources, have used this polluted water for cooking, drinking, bathing, swimming or irrigation directly.

As a result of the discharging wastewater into the river, many water borne diseases such as diarrhea, typhoid fever or enteritis are affecting many people. Particularly, waterborne disease is affecting many children under five years.

**PP21**
Date of collection of “Water Voice” * 19 January 2003
Region and country * Southeast Asia * CAMBODIA/ Phnom Penh City
Who is “Voice Senders”? Adult
Gender of “Voice Senders” Male
Occupation Type of “Voice Senders”: Public officer
Key words: droughts, floods, and rain-fed farming

**Title: The Decreased Rice Yield due to Floods and Droughts**

It is expected that last year’s drought and flood will cause 2002’s total rice yield to drop down considerably. The average yield per hectare in 2001 was 1.9 tons, but it may have fallen to 1.5 tons per hectare for the year 2002. According to officials from the Ministry of Agriculture have said that many farmers gave up farming, because of the combining flood and prolonged drought. The government has said that last year’s drought and floods affected more than 2 million people in nine provinces. Thus this year, many farmers are facing a food shortage because of natural disaster.

**PP22**
Date of collection of “Water Voice” * 29 December 2002
Who is “Voice Senders”? Adult
Gender of “Voice Senders” Male
Occupation Type of “Voice Senders”: Forestry
Key words: Rainfed farming, climate change

**Title: Deforestation and Climate Change**

In the last few years, in Cambodia we are facing the changing of climate. The weather is unpredictable, rainy season becomes drought while some times dry season converted to flood. The rapid climate change in Cambodia as well as in the world has affected many lives on earth. For example, this year farmers expected to get rainy water for growing crops, but the usual rainy season did not come, as a result crops could not grow or survive and a lot of farmers are facing a food shortage.

The changing of climate is mainly caused by deforestation. Without trees, there is no absorbing system (operated by the root) to prevent the run off water, consequently floods or droughts will be occurred. Further more forest can also help to clean the air pollution from human activities into the atmosphere. Forests play an important in protecting environment and human lives as well as in preventing the unpleasant climate change and global warming.
**PP23**

Date of collection of “Water Voice” * 20 January 2003  
Region and country where you collected “Water Voice”  
Country: * Southeast Asia * CAMBODIA /Phnom Penh City  
Who is “Voice Senders”? Adult  
Gender of “Voice Senders” Male  
Occupation Type of “Voice Senders”: Public officer  
Key words: Dams, floods

**Title: Flooding Problem in Phnom Penh City**  
Every year, most parts of Phnom Penh City are flooded, and have destroyed infrastructure and affected seriously the livelihood of the urbanites especially the poorest. Some time floods stop all working activities. The flooded water was very polluted that impacted on human health especially children.

Most of the time, the floods in Phnom Penh city come from heavy rainfall during wet season; as the old sewage system has not enough capacity to run off flooded water because it is almost damaged.

**PP24**

Date of collection of “Water Voice” * 30 December 2002  
Region and country: * Southeast Asia/ CAMBODIA Anlong Kngan village, Khan Russei Keo, Phnom Penh city  
Who is “Voice Senders”? Adult  
Gender of “Voice Senders” Female  
Occupation Type of “Voice Senders”: Student  
Key words: water scarcity, water and poverty

**Title: Water Scarcity and Poverty in the Resettled Area**  
Anlong Kngan is a new resettlement of poor people and it is located in the outskirt of Phnom Penh City. The people who are living in this place have shortage of clean water for domestic use and drinking. If it rains, they can collect rainy water for drinking. There are some wells or tube wells in this village, but the water quality is very dangerous for the health of users, because the water contains calcareous element and other mineral substances. At the moment, the major issue of this community is the lacking of drinking water. Furthermore, there is no sewage system in this village so the livelihood of the people is not very well.

**PP25**

Date of collection of “Water Voice”: 01 February 2003  
Country/Region/Area: Cambodia/ Southeast Asia/ Phnom Penh City  
Voice Sender’s Age: Adult  
Voice Sender’s Gender: Male  
Voice Sender’s Occupation: Monk  
Key words: Water and Buddhism

**Title: Water, the Source of Life**  
Human, animal and plant need water to survive. In Buddhism, water is one of the four greatest elements that form our world. The Buddha made his disciples aware of the importance of protecting and conserving water resources. He criticized monks who used water thoughtlessly, and praised those who built wells and water ponds for their communities. The sacredness of water is illustrated in the way it is used to bless people during Buddhist or some other ceremonies in Cambodia. Water is an important symbol for the Cambodians, which has penetrated into their culture, language and way of thinking and living. Drawing on this symbol helps Cambodians to heed the Buddha’s injunction to protect and preserve water sources for all people, animals and plants.
** Title: The Advice of Buddha in Water pollution  

Long time ago before the contamination of the earth’s water, the Buddha set down rules forbidding the pollution of water resources. Several Vinaya Pitaka rules prohibit monks from polluting grounds and water with spit, human waste and urine. These human wastes were the common agents of pollution during the Buddha’s day. To pollute water is similar to committing a sin because all lives depend on water. A water trainer has always been one of the eight basic tools provided to when they ordain. Today, monks still receive water fillers as a remainder to drink clean water and guard against harming small insets and living creatures in the water. Polluted water is a health hazard and many diseases can be contracted through drinking or bathing in unclean water.

** Title: Legend Related to Rainfall Ceremony  

Rainwater is a special thing that plant, animal and human are depending on it for survive. In dry season, gardener work patiently to water their plants but it could not grow better than growing with rainwater during wet season. Thus, when in some years there are lacked of rainfall, serious calamity such as hungry and disease happened. The both calamities are a factor to celebrate rainfall ceremony, which is an important traditional ceremony that the Cambodian people have kept for long time ago.

Drought always affects the living being seriously. Long time ago, when the Buddha changed his new life to be a fish (Trei Ros) and lived in a pond at Wasborei, in that time, there was no rainfall and all water sources such as lakes or ponds run dried. In a pond where the king’s fish (Sdeach Trei Ros) lived, there was only soft mud and many water’s birds come to eat fishes happily. The king’s fish ordered all fishes to hide in mud miserably. One day the king’s fish prayed for help from the God. After praying the God Indra ordered an angel to make rainfall for this region. From that time, the king’s fish and other fishes lived happily. For this reason, nowadays when there are serious droughts, people celebrate rainfall ceremony by making a small watering pond with a fish and invite monk to pray for rainfall.

(Source: Prochhum Roeung Preng Khmer, Volume 9).
Title: Rainfall Ceremony
It is the belief of Cambodian people that when their living area met drought, they always celebrate rainfall ceremony. In the ceremony they play a dance called Robam Mony Makhala, which is related to a legend of the birth of thunderstorm.

Since long time ago, Cambodia is an agricultural country and the agricultural production depends on rainfall and natural water resources. Cambodian people have believed that Mony Makhala is a God of rain. Thus, when in the country faced drought problem and shortage of water to irrigate crops or plants, they celebrate rainfall ceremony in the pagoda in rural area or in the Royal Palace or everywhere that they believe sacred places by using Mony Makhala dancing. Mony Makhala dancing is one of the famous praying dances for rainfall ceremony in Cambodia today.

Title: Morning Glory and Wastewater
Boeung Tumpun lake is a wetland to store wastewater discharged mainly from the Phnom Penh city. Morning glory and other vegetable are cultivated in it or the water are used to irrigate the vegetable. Using this wastewater for morning glory can give high yield with good quality. However, the question is that, will this natural wastewater treatment be sustainable system or not when more wastes are discharged into the lake as the population and industries are growing.

Another question is whether it is safe to consume the vegetable grown in this wetland?

Title: Price of Water Connection is not Suitable for the Poor Area in Phnom Penh City
We are living in Stung Meanchevy village, outskirt of Phnom Penh city. We have poor access to the clean water service that is provided by the Clean Water Supply Authority since long time ago. Usually,
we have used rainwater, tube well’s water that contained calcareous element, or bought clean water that costs about US$ 0.5 per 200 liters.
Recently the clean water supply is expanding its operational service in most parts of the village, but price of clean water connection for each household is expensive. It is about US$ 105 per connection. We have been waiting for this service for a long time, but now that we can get clean water with lower price (about US$ 0.1 per cubic meter) we need to pay very high price just for the connection. This price is not suitable for this poor area.

**PP31**
Date of collection of “Water Voice” 24 December 2002
Region and country: CAMBODIA *Southeast Asia * Phnom Penh
Who is “Voice Senders”:
Gender of “Voice Senders”:
Occupation Type of “Voice Senders”:
Key words:

**Title: Wastewater Management**
I would like to request the Royal Government of Cambodia to have careful consideration on wastewater management in the industries, because there are many lessons to be learned from other countries in the world. At the same time industries in Cambodia do not have yet measures to manage the wastewater. Environment concerns should be integrated in the plan.

**PP32**
Date of collection of “Water Voice”* 12 February 2003
Region and country: * Southeast Asia, CAMBODIA * Phnom Penh City
Voice Senders:
Gender of “Voice Senders”:
Occupation Type of “Voice Senders”:
Key words:

**Title: Wastewater and Sewage**
Wastewater management in Phnom Penh and other municipalities of Cambodia is extremely poor. Sewerage systems have not been maintained over the past three decades and are in a state of disrepair with 80% of piping damaged. Some drain water and sewage mixes with drinking water with obvious health implications: diarrhea diseases are common throughout the country and cholera outbreaks occur frequently. There are frequent floods in the city during the rainy season as the sewers become rapidly clogged. The problems of urban wastewater are particularly acute in the larger urban areas, where dramatic population growth is placing an additional burden on already overloaded systems. Recently a main wastewater canal has been rehabilitated to mitigate the flooding of wastewater in Phnom Penh city but is it not enough for the whole city.

**PP33**
Date of collection of “Water Voice”* 12 February 2003
Region and Country: * Southeast Asia, CAMBODIA * Phnom Penh City
Voice Senders:
Gender of “Voice Senders”:
Occupation Type of “Voice Senders”:
Key words:

**Title: Waste Pollution into the River**
In Phnom Penh a lot of the factories and handicraft centers are situated close to the riverbank. A large number of these producers ignore proper waste disposal facilities and pour their waste directly into the Mekong river
system. Nightclubs, floating houses and hotels along the riverbank also contribute to degenerating water quality as they are not equipped (or required by law to be equipped) with chemical reaction or filter tanks to treat their waste before discharging it into rivers and lakes. The Ministry of Environment has inadequate environmental legislation to deal with such polluters.

In most areas of Cambodia there are no proper sanitation facilities and people defecate in the fields or water bodies, resulting in contamination of drinking water sources. During the rainy season the effects are more serious, resulting in widespread excreta contamination and disease outbreaks.

**PP34**

Date of collection of “Water Voice”* 12 February 2003

Region and Country: * Southeast Asia, CAMBODIA * Phnom Penh City

Voice Senders: Adult

Gender of “Voice Senders: Male

Occupation Type of “Voice Senders”: Researcher

Key words: Water Security

**Title: The Drinking Water in Cambodia**

Although Cambodia has abundant surface water, it is often contaminated and current safe water supplies are not sufficient for the population, especially in rural areas. In the dry season, people often have to walk several kilometers to fetch water. According to the past extensive survey in 10,000 villages (Government and UNICEF, 1991) indicated that during dry season:

- 20% of the population use river water;
- 20% of the population use water from ponds;
- 60% of the population use drilled/traditional hand dug well water.

It is difficult to assess current water quality conditions as available data are scarce and uneven quality. However, a report on water and environmental sanitation (Government and UNICEF, 1993) shows the percentage population with access to safe drinking water is:

- Urban: 40%
- Rural: 15%
- Total: 19%
XV. PREAH SIHANOUKVILLE

PSV1
Date of collection of “Water Voice”* 29 June 2002
Region and country where you collected “Water Voice”* Southeast Asia, CAMBODIA * Veal Meas village, Khum Veal Renh, Khan Prey Nop, Krong Preah Sihanouk
Voice Senders: Elderly
Gender of “Voice Senders”: Male
Occupation Type of “Voice Senders”: Agriculture, Fishing
Keywords: Dams

Title: Dam Management
In the last two years, we have problems with more water than normal in our rainfed farming area that destroyed our rice crop during the wet season. During these two years, we had difficulty to cultivate rice on time and in the deep-water rice fields we could not plant rice for the whole season, so almost the rice yield was decreased. The problem is that during the time of dam making to protect salt water in this area and the governor did not release water from the dam during the rice-planting season. We are farmers who are living and planting rice crop in this area, we have to suggest the governor to pay more attention on this problem in the forthcoming wet season. We are rice farmers, so our life depends on rice farming.

PSV2
Date of collection of “Water Voice”* 28 June 2002
Region and country where you collected “Water Voice”* Southeast Asia, CAMBODIA * Ma Ou village, Khum Ou Chrov, Khan Prey Nop, Krong Preah Sihanouk
Voice Senders: Elderly
Gender of “Voice Senders”: Male
Occupation Type of “Voice Senders”: Fishing
Keywords: Aquatic plants and animals

Title: Reduction of Aquatic Plants and Animals
Many years ago, before and during civil war the water in the river was very clear and deep. In that time, we did not spend too much time to go fishing because in the water there were more fishes, aquatic plants and animals. Along the river there were abundant mangrove and inundated forests. After 1993 up to now, every thing is almost changing. Particularly, the river is silting and shallow, the water is not clear, and the fishes or aquatic animals are scarce. Our villagers are fishers and our life depends on the natural resources from the river and the sea. Now we often could not catch enough fishes to sell for buying foods. This problem stems from the fact that there is illegal deforestation of mangrove and inundated forests along the river, over fishing and poverty.

PSV3
Date of collection of “Water Voice”* 28 June 2002
Region and country where you collected “Water Voice”* Southeast Asia, CAMBODIA * Kaoh Khyang village, Khum Ou Chrov, Khan Prey Nop, Krong Preah Sihanouk
Voice Senders: Elderly
Gender of “Voice Senders”: Male
Occupation Type of “Voice Senders”: Fishing
Keywords: Pollution
**Title: Water Pollution**

We are living in the fishing port village Koh Khyang. In our village, polluted water flows directly into the sea because of rapid population growth in the last few years. Many things from human to domestic wastes and fuel oil have been polluted the seawater. This causes many problems. In our sea, which uses to have a large number of fish and aquatic animals, now have decreased in the last few years. We need to improve our sanitary facilities and to conserve our natural resources, so in the last three years we gathered the fishers or fishing farmers together to create a fishing community in our area. Another important problem that makes our life difficult and that we have to face every day is the lack of fresh water for domestic use.

**PSV4**

Date of collection of “Water Voice”* 28 June 2002  
Region and country where you collected “Water Voice” * Southeast Asia, CAMBODIA * Preak Tuk Sap  
village, Khum Ream, Khan Prey Nop, Krong Preah Sihanouk  
Voice Senders: Elderly  
Gender of “Voice Senders”: Male  
Occupation Type of “Voice Senders”: Agriculture, Fishing  
Keyword: Pollution

**Title: Water Scarcity**

We are living in the village along Preak Teok Sap River. Most houses are settled in the riverbank and some of them have discharged polluted water and human waste directly into the river because due to lack of education and the rapid population growth in the last few years. During wet season, the villagers take fresh water from this river for all use, but in the dry season the water is salty. Now the water is more polluted than before due to the illegal cutting of mangrove and inundated forest along the river, and the discharged of domestic waste from upstream. In summer, we lack of fresh water because we couldn’t use river water and the water from most of our wells is sour or a bit salty. At the same time, from year to year the seawater has been damaged the soil quality of our rice field.

**PSV5**

Date of collection of “Water Voice”* 28 June 2002  
Region and country where you collected “Water Voice” * Southeast Asia, CAMBODIA * Ream village,  
Khum Ream, Khan Prey Nop, Krong Preah Sihanouk  
Voice Senders: Elderly  
Gender of “Voice Senders”: Male  
Occupation Type of “Voice Senders”: Agriculture  
Keywords: Water Scarcity

**Title: Water Scarcity**

We are living in the coastal area, where most people have suffered from a shortage of fresh water. In the rainy season we do not have much problem because we could collect rainwater for all use, but every summer we do not have enough fresh water. In our commune we have limited number of wells that have good quality of fresh water. In the drought year, some time the villagers had some conflict between the well’s owners and the villagers who do not have wells regarding the water collection. Another problem that we face in this area is that during summer time, the seawater flows through the Preak Teok Sap River to flood our rainfed rice fields every year and is damaging the soil quality. Some years our people organize festival to pray to the God or tutelary spirit for rain and for a good harvest year.
PSV6
Date of collection of “Water Voice”* 29 June 2002
Region and country where you collected “Water Voice” * Southeast Asia, CAMBODIA * Tumnob Rolok, Khan Stung Hav, Krong Preah Sihanouk
Voice Senders: Adult
Gender of “Voice Senders”: Male
Occupation Type of “Voice Senders” : Fishing
Keywords: Pollution

Title: Water Pollution
We are living in the coastal area along the sea bank and almost our villagers are fishers. All polluted water and human sewage flows directly into the seawater and this causes many problems to the human health. This problem stems from the fact that there is lack of environmental education and the rapid population growth in the last few years. We need to improve our sanitary and our living habits, but we are poor people who lack of education and living in poverty, so we could not do any thing alone without assistance from outside.

PSV7
Date of collection of “Water Voice” * 16 November 2002
Region and country where you collected “Water Voice” * Southeast Asia, CAMBODIA * Southeast Asia/ Khan Prey Nop, Preah Sihanouk Ville
Voice Senders: Adult
Gender of “Voice Senders” : female
Occupation Type of “Voice Senders” : Agriculture
Keywords: Dams

Title: The Impact of Salt –Water ‘s Dam on Farmers
In the last few years since 1999, the construction of dam to protect salt water from the sea, is impacting on many farmers in the area and their rice production. The dam is located in Khan Prey Nop, Preah Sihanouk City. Some issues that are related to the dam are as following:

(i) Closing of the water gate during harvesting time is damaging the rice yield;
(ii) In year 2000-2001 during the flowering stage, they released water that affected the rice crop seriously;
(iii) This year (2002) some rice fields have been flooded because they did not release the water;
(iv) They did not accept the request of the farmers for closing or opening the water gate on time in need;
(v) The farmers will be paid 23,000 Riel (about 6$US) per ha per year for water. They did not use to pay before.

PSV8
Date of collection of “Water Voice” * 13 January 2002
Region and country *Southeast Asia, CAMBODIA *Preah Sihanouk City
Who is “Voice Senders”? Adult
Gender of “Voice Senders” Male
Occupation Type of “Voice Senders” : Public officer
Key words: Water supply system, water security

Title: Water Demand of People in Preah Sihanoukville
Preah Sihanoukville is one of the coastal cities in Cambodia. The demand of fresh water for domestic use in Preah Sihanoukville is about 5,000 m³ per day, but the clean water supply has the capacity to produce only
around 2,000 to 3,000 m$^3$ per day. As a result, many people in some areas often face the water shortage during dry season, they are:

- Mittapheap district: Kling Leu, Kampenh, Tum Nup Rolork,
- Prey Nop district: All communes are located in the coastal areas and all fresh water wells are salty during dry season, and
- Stung Hav district: The private runs the water supply in this district, and there is still a water shortage.

Agriculture in this area is a rain-fed farming system, thus the water for cropping can be changed upon the climate.
XVI. PREAH VIHEAR PROVINCE

PVH1
Date of collection of “Water Voice” * 5 December 2002
Region and country where you collected “Water Voice” * Southeast Asia, CAMBODIA * Kampong Chamlong village, Kampong Bronak Commune, Tbey Meanchey district, Preah Vihear province
Voice Senders: Adult
Gender of “Voice Senders”: Male
Occupation Type of “Voice Senders”: Fishing
Key words: Ecosystem

Title: Using Illegal Fishing Tools Destroy Fish Stock

One of fishermen who is living in Kampong Chamlong village, in his worrying face, said that: “ From 1998 until this year fish number in Stung Sen river has decreased from time to time because of illegal fishing tools such as electric shock or explosive tools. During year 2000, I could catch about 5-8 Kg of fish per day, but this year I caught about 2-3 Kg only with normal fishing equipment such as net and fishing rod”. The natural resources in the Stung Sen River will be extinct if the government does not have any disciplinary measure to eradicate illegal fishing activities.

PVH2
Date of collection of “Water Voice” * 18 December 2002
Region and country: Southeast Asia, CAMBODIA * Preah Vihear province
Who is “Voice Senders”? Adult
Gender of “Voice Senders”: Male
Occupation Type of “Voice Senders”: Vice-Governor
Key words: Water and poverty

Title: Water Access and Poverty
Preah Vihear province is located at the northern part of the country bordered to Thailand. Generally, there is only one small river that passes this remote province. As it is mountainous area, ground water is also very deep at about 40-60 meters. People have very limited access to water. Rice farming depends on rainfall so the production is very low. The poverty in this province started from this problem.
XVII. PREY VENG PROVINCE

PV1
Date of collection of “Water Voice”* 02 August 2002
Region and country where you collected “Water Voice” * Southeast Asia, CAMBODIA * Prey Veng Town, Prey Veng province
Voice Senders: Adult
Gender of “Voice Senders: Male,
Occupation Type of “Voice Senders”: Agriculture, Public officer
Key words: Floods, drought

Title: Floods and Drought
Prey Veng province is one of the rice-producing province located in the lowland area of the Mekong flood plain. In the last few years, the province has suffered from the serious natural disaster such as flood and drought. This year, we also have a severe prolonged drought from the dry season which is destroying many thousands hectares of crops, especially rice production. Most of Cambodian farmers have believed in God, tutelary spirit or statues, if they have problem and could not solve it by themselves. Based on the religious belief, the provincial authority built some big statues like the statue of the Raining God for people to pray with purpose to mitigate the flood and drought in this area.

PV2
Date of collection of “Water Voice”* 14 September 2002
Region and country where you collected “Water Voice” * Southeast Asia, CAMBODIA * Chea Klang commune, Prey Veng district, Prey Veng province
Voice Senders: Adult
Gender of “Voice Senders: Male,
Occupation Type of “Voice Senders”: Agriculture
Key words: Rainfed Farming

Title: Rainfed Farming
In the last two years, our village could recover from flood that destroyed our rainfed rice crop and lead to food shortage. This year faced a severe drought that we did not have for a long time. Many villagers have left their paddy fields and homeland to different places to seek other jobs to gain their living.

In this area we have some water sources, but they are far away from our paddy, so we couldn’t have any opportunity to get water from there because we do not have water pumps and water canal.

To solve this problem, the water pump’s team of the Prime Minister Hun Sen, in cooperation with PRSAC and Provincial Department of Water Resources and meteorology, had set up activities to rescue the rice seedling. Now these rice seedlings survive again. However, if there will be no rain in the near future, all water sources will be dried. This rescuing activity can help us to solve the problem in short-term. For the long-term solution, we need to develop an irrigation system in this area.
**PV3**

Date of collection of “Water Voice” * 27 September 2002  
Region and country where you collected “Water Voice” * Southeast Asia, CAMBODIA* Thkov commune, Kampong Trabaek district, Prey Veng province  
Voice Senders: Adult  
Gender of “Voice Senders”: Male  
Occupation Type of “Voice Senders”: Agriculture  
Key words: Drought, Irrigation  

**Title: Drought and Lack of Irrigation**  
At this time in normal year, the farmers are already finished transplanting the wet season rice, but this year they suffered from serious drought and flood. While some large areas in this district faced drought problem, other were flooded. Although the flooding area is closed to the rice field (is drying), the farmers could not use that water to irrigate their rice fields, because they lack of good irrigation system and water pumps.

The immediate solution was that the government sent water pump’s group to this area to rescue the rice crops. However, it could rescue rice fields that are located close to the main canal only. The farmers who have rice fields far from the canal are still lacked of water, so they request the government to build irrigation system.

**PV4**

Date of collection of “Water Voice” * 5 October 2002  
Region and country where you collected “Water Voice” * South East Asia, CAMBODIA* Damrei puon commune, Prey Veng district and province  
Voice Senders: Adult  
Gender of “Voice Senders”: Female  
Occupation Type of “Voice Senders”: Agriculture  
Key words: Food security, Floods  

**Title: Floods Impact on Food Security**  
In the past, we had an annual flood from the river and it prolonged for ten days. In that time we did not suffer from flooding because it was not longer than ten days and didn’t destroy our agricultural plantation.

In the last four years, we have suffered from continuous floods for two or three times a year that destroyed our rice fields, and every time it prolonged for more than a month. This impacts on agriculture, leading to food shortage and increased poverty to the villagers. The farmers could not have enough food from their rice-cultivation, so many of them are changing their jobs, some are selling their labors in the Phnom Penh city and other towns, some are doing additional income activities such as keeping hogs or growing potatoes or vegetables for selling, etc.

Generally, beside flood in raining season; the villagers have water shortage during the dry season, because they are lacking of water reservoirs and irrigation system.

**PV5**

Date of collection of “Water Voice” * 5 October 2002  
Region and country where you collected “Water Voice” * South East Asia, CAMBODIA * Kampong Leav commune/district, Prey Veng province  
Voice Senders: Adult  
Gender of “Voice Senders”: Female  
Occupation Type of “Voice Senders”: Agriculture  
Key words: Rain-fed farming
In the past time, normally rainfall started in late May. by this time the farmers had enough water to prepare their seedbed. When the rainfall ended in November, the rainfed rice could have enough water to be matured. Generally, the distribution was regular, and the farmers did not worry about water shortage.

Currently everything has changed. For example, in the last three years we had too much rainfall in the region that caused flooding two or three times per year and destroyed our rice crop. This year, we had two times flooding and also drought that lead to food shortage in my family and my neighbor.

Title: Farmers are Worrying about the Climate Change

Long time ago, our village had only a well that provided enough water for domestic use and our rainfed rice farming depended on rainfall. In that time there was no flood, so everything was good for us.

After 1998, five wells have been dug by an NGO for the villagers but we still could not have enough water, because of increasing number of population. So some villagers have drilled private tube-well. Although we have a lot of wells but agricultural cultivation is facing impacts from climate change, drought and flood during the cultivated season.

This year due to the impact of serious flood and drought, many villagers have gone to the cities to sell their labors and some are stilling in the village keeping hogs or fishing to support their daily lives. We are worrying about the climate change.
Title: Farmers Feel Hopeless from the Rice Harvest this Year

In Prey Phleang village, where the farmers did not have serious water shortage in the wet season before, are praying for rain (in May) and for a good harvest. As contrast, on the other side of the river, the increased water level in the river flooded a large area and is affecting livelihood of the villagers as well. Now there is water in the rice fields, all farmers are hurrying to spread rice seed and plant rice-seedling. Unfortunately, the north wind started blowing, it is the signed that rainfed rice farming should be at the maturing stage already, but the seedlings were just transplanted. So they do not hope to have a good harvest this year.

PV8
Date of collection of “Water Voice” * 10 October 2002
Region and country where you collected “Water Voice” * South East Asia, CAMBODIA * Roka Sok village, Mebon commune, Prey Veng district/ province
Voice Senders: Elderly
Gender of “Voice Senders”: Male
Occupation Type of “Voice Senders”: Agriculture
Key words: Other, Water Security

Title: Population Pressure and Water Security

Long time ago, people of three villages that are located along the Mebon river stream used water from the stream for all use. In that time the stream had enough water and a lot of fish in both seasons, so the villagers could cultivate dry season rice or other crops or vegetables in the dry season. Now even they have a lot of wells and tube-wells, but some are still using the stream’s water. The river stream has been dried during the dry season that affects the livelihood of the villagers. They couldn’t cultivate crop or vegetables for own consumption or for selling to improve their income. The change of the stream is due to the soil erosion, the use of “Sam Ras” to catch fish, and the increase of water demand.

The villagers request to the Government or NGOs to help us to manage the stream and convert it to a water basin because it is very important for our livelihood.

PV9
Date of collection of “Water Voice” * 10 October 2002
Region and country where you collected “Water Voice” * South East Asia, CAMBODIA * Roka Prey Kandieng village/commune, Peam Ro district, Prey Veng province
Voice Senders: Elderly
Gender of “Voice Senders”: Male
Occupation Type of “Voice Senders”: Agriculture
Key words: Other, Irrigation

Title: Irrigation System and Rice Production

In the past time, the farmers could cultivate rice crop in both seasons, wet and dry. Nowadays, due to frequency of flooding, they could cultivate only dry season rice. The main sources of water to irrigate dry season rice is from the Prek Korpai stream that is located about 4 km from the village and some tube’s wells drilled by some
farmers in the rice field to irrigate their crops. The farmers could grow dry season rice only in a small area around the stream.

With the Prek Korpal stream and some tube-wells, the farmer could not produce more rice to satisfy the present food requirement, so they request to Government or NGOs to dig a water canal from Prek Snay which is located about 2 Km from the village to have water for irrigation, and especially to expand their rice farming.

PV10
Date of collection of “Water Voice” * 10 October 2002
Region and country where you collected “Water Voice” * South East Asia, CAMBODIA * Prek Khsay village/commune, Peam Ro district, Prey Veng province
Voice Senders: Elderly
Gender of “Voice Senders”: Male
Occupation Type of “Voice Senders”: Agriculture
Key words: Other, Sanitation, Water and Health

Title: Water and Health
Normally, most villagers use water from the Mekong River and lake directly without any treatment. Only a few people boil the water before drinking. others do not take care about the hygiene and the impact of the water quality on health in the future because they are not aware about the current water quality. During the raining season, the water of the Mekong River is very turbid, so they use a substance called “Sach Chou” to produce clear water before cooking or drinking. This is real life of the remote people who are living in least developed country.

PV11
Date of collection of “Water Voice” * 10 October 2002
Region and country where you collected “Water Voice” * South East Asia, CAMBODIA * Ba Baong village/commune, Peam Ro district, Prey Veng province
Voice Senders: Elderly
Gender of “Voice Senders”: Male
Occupation Type of “Voice Senders”: Agriculture
Key words: Drought, Other

Title: Drought and Traditional Praying for Rainfall
Before 1979, the villagers met some drought period but such event happened once in three or four year. In that time, the villagers used water from the river and lake for drinking and for agricultural purpose. For drinking they did not boil it, because they had adapted to it for a long time.

In the last few years (1998-2002), they have suffered from serious drought every year that affects the agriculture especially rice production. Some villagers had no opportunities to cultivate rice crop, because there is not enough water so they abandoned the village to find new jobs. Some has a small opportunity to grow it by using water from the lake or tube-wells that are located near the rice field.

Traditionally, if they have a serious drought they celebrate a festival to pray for rainfall like this year. However, many people did not believe it any more, because it could not help them.
PV12
Date of collection of “Water Voice” * 10 October 2002
Region and country where you collected “Water Voice” * South East Asia, CAMBODIA * Mebon village/commune, Prey Veng district, Prey Veng province
Voice Senders: Elderly
Gender of “Voice Senders”: Male
Occupation Type of “Voice Senders”: Agriculture
Key words: Drought, Floods, Climate Change

Title: Climate Change and Rice Production
Before and after 1979, farmers in Mebon village had cultivated rice crop based on rainfall, and in that time the nature and land provided us suitable opportunity for rice production, we could harvest about 3 tons of rice per hectare, so we had enough food to support our family.

After that, the nature and the climate have changed from year to year and the worst time for us is from 1998 to present. During this period we have floods and droughts all the time. Like this year, we do not have flood but drought so we could not cultivate our crops. In the extreme years we used to pray to the God for help in reducing the impact of flood or to bring us some rainfall to rescue our rice seedlings, but nothing happened.

PV13
Date of collection of “Water Voice” * 11 October 2002
Region and country where you collected “Water Voice” * South East Asia, CAMBODIA * Kampong Leav village/commune/district, Prey Veng province
Voice Senders: Elderly
Gender of “Voice Senders”: Female
Occupation Type of “Voice Senders”: Agriculture
Key words: Floods, Dams

Title: Dam Causing Flood
After 1979, the villagers of Kampong Leav village used to meet annual flooding from the Mekong River once within the period of 4 or 5 years. In that time we could produce rice in both dry and wet seasons, and the river’s water did not flood our village and rice field.

In the last few years, we are suffering from flooding every year between September and October and it occurred two times a year that affect our rice production badly. The problem is due to irregular rainfall and after the construction of a dam around the provincial town without discharging the water, and the village has only a water pump which does not have enough capacity to pump the water on time.

PV14
Date of collection of “Water Voice” * 11 October 2002
Region and country where you collected “Water Voice” * South East Asia, CAMBODIA * Chouk Chey village, Ba Baong commune, Peam Ro district, Prey Veng province
Voice Senders: Adult
Gender of “Voice Senders”: Female
Occupation Type of “Voice Senders”: Agriculture
Key words: Floods, Other

Title: Floods Impact on the Villagers
In the last few years, our village as well as other villages, which are located in the lowland of the Mekong River suffer from annual floods every year. The river’s water flooded the whole village and we have no land to keep
our animals. During every flooding time, we relocated our family and animals in a very small shelter on the roadside. We waited about two months for outflow of water from the village. It is very difficult life for us to stay at the roadside every year during the flooding time, because we are lacked of water, toilette, food, etc.

**PV15**

Date of collection of “Water Voice” *11 October 2002*
Region and country where you collected “Water Voice” *South East Asia, CAMBODIA *Prey Phleang village, Damrei Poun commune, Prey Veng district, Prey Veng province
Voice Senders: Adult
Gender of “Voice Senders”: Female
Occupation Type of “Voice Senders”: Agriculture
Key words: Floods, dams, drought

**Title: The Impact of a Dam**

In the past time, villagers could cultivate rice crop in wet and dry season. In that time everything was good, the climate did not change very much. The rainwater and annual flooded water were enough for rice cultivation. The annual floods did not spread into the village, but after that things haves changed. We suffer from floods and droughts very often now.

After the construction of O’Ampon dam for building a road connecting to this village and to store water for other villages downstream of the dam, our village has suffered from floods every year. Nowadays, we could not cultivate rice in the wet season because our village and rice fields could be flooded, so we could only produce dry season rice.

**PV16**

Date of collection of “Water Voice” *17 October 2002*
Region and country where you collected “Water Voice” *Southeast Asia, CAMBODIA *Baray Kaeut village, Baray commune, Kampong Leav district, Prey Veng province
Voice Senders: Elderly
Gender of “Voice Senders”: Female
Occupation Type of “Voice Senders”: House worker
Key words: Gender, water and poverty, floods

**Title: Flood Impact on Gender and Elderly**

Long time ago, my family lived in Baray Kaeut village and our livelihood depended on rice production. In that time, we did not have any problem related to water. In the last few years, we are suffering from annual flood of the Mekong River that damages our rainfed rice and now we could cultivate dry season rice only. This problem force many villagers to abandon their homeland to find some incomes in the cities to support their family. After my children left, I am looking after my two grand children. I always have difficulty to collect water from the open well for daily use because I am very old and do not have enough power to carry water from the deep well (the water table is about 10 m in the dry season and about 3 m in wet season).
**PV17**

Date of collection of “Water Voice” * 12 October 2002
Region and country where you collected “Water Voice” * Southeast Asia, CAMBODIA* Babaong commune, Peam Ro district, Prey Veng province
Voice Senders: Child
Gender of “Voice Senders: Male
Occupation Type of “Voice Senders”: Pupil
Key words:

Title: Water and Children

My family is a farmer that is living in Chouk Chey village, Peam Ro district. I always get up in the early morning and go to collect water from a well of my neighbor to support our daily use before I go to school, and I do it again in the evening. I have carried a heavy bucket full of water (30 liters) many times a day since 3 years ago after my parents left home to find additional jobs in the city, because our village is affected by natural disasters. Our kitchen is in the living house, which is more than 2 meters high from the ground.

Now I am 12 year old and everyday I have spent all my power to carry the water for use.

**PV18**

Date of collection of “Water Voice” * 17 October 2002
Region and country where you collected “Water Voice” * CAMBODIA Southeast Asia * Baray Kaeut village, Baray commune, Kampong Leav district, Prey Veng province
Voice Senders: Adult
Gender of “Voice Senders: Male
Occupation Type of “Voice Senders”: Road worker
Key words:

Title: Flood Impact on National road

Generally, flood during the raining season has destructed the national road to Prey Veng badly. All kind of road transport has to be stopped to avoid further destruction, and was replaced by river transportation. The villagers have difficulties in transporting their agricultural produces to the market. The government has spent money to rehabilitate the road after each flood, but it never ends if flood persists. This has been a lot of lost for us.
PV19

Date of collection of “Water Voice” * 17 October 2002
Region and country where you collected “Water Voice” * Southeast Asia, CAMBODIA * Baray Kaeut village, Baray commune, Kampong Leav district, Prey Veng province
Voice Senders: Adult
Gender of “Voice Senders: Male
Occupation Type of “Voice Senders”: Villager
Key words: flood, national road, erosion

Title: Road erosion

After destruction of the national road to Prey Veng by flood, some parts of the road continues eroding, this dangerous for villagers who are living along this road and the transportation. At the same time the villagers also lost their homeland. Some things have to be done for resolving this problem.
XVIII. PURSAT PROVINCE

PS1
Date of collection of “Water Voice”* April 2002
Region and country where you collected “Water Voice * Southeast Asia, CAMBODIA* Pursat town and all villages along the Pursat River, Pursat province
Voice senders: Villagers

Title: Water issues if villages along Pursat River
Small rivers, ponds, waterpumps, wells and rainfall are water sources for our villagers along the Pursat River. Issues related to water have been raised, for examples:
- Not enough clean water supplies for Pursat town in summer;
- Raining time is changing;
- Ground water is exhausting;
- River water is not clear in wet season and;
- Water quantity is decreased from year to year because the river is silting every year.

PS2
Date of collection of “Water Voice”* 10 July 2002
Region and country where you collected “Water Voice”* Southeast Asia, CAMBODIA * Veal Veng district, Pursat province
Voice Senders: Adult
Gender of “Voice Senders”: Male
Occupation Type of “Voice Senders”: Public Officer, Agriculture
Key words: Drought

Title: Drought
Veal Veng district is one of the remote district of Pursat province that is located in the forest and mountains. In this year, the drought is affecting seriously to the livelihood of the people in this remote area. The livelihood of the people depends on agriculture such as rice and maize production, and products from the forest. They are living in very poor condition and they have only few hectares of rice field. If there is not enough rainfall as soon as possible by the end of July, the rice and maize crops will die completely. The shifting cultivation increasingly results to food shortage. Now some villagers have gone to the forest to collect some wild potatoes to eat. Due to the irregular rainfall like today, it impacts on the human health and particularly, increasing the incidence of malaria.
XIX. SIEM REAP PROVINCE

SR1
Date of collection of “Water Voice” * 14 September 2002
Region and country where you collected “Water Voice” * South East Asia, CAMBODIA * Siem Reap province
Voice Senders: Adult
Gender of “Voice Senders”: Male
Occupation Type of “Voice Senders”: Public Officer
Keywords: Floods

Title: Floods
Normally, if the water level of the Tonle Sap Lake could reach up to 9.57 m high, the Siem Reap’s river stream would be overflowed. In this time, it isn’t normal year because the water level of the Tonle Sap Lake was only 8.86 m, but some parts of the river stream are overflowing to flood many villages, roads, agricultural fields and rainfed rice, especially in the point of Ang Krapeu.

The problem is due to the human activities and heavy rainfall in the area; some parts of Siem Reap river stream are narrower than before. Many villagers who are living along the stream have filled up the land in the riverbank to expand their own land, therefore it narrowed down the river.

SR2
Date of collection of “Water Voice” * 02 October 2002
Region and country where you collected “Water Voice” * Southeast Asia, CAMBODIA * Khar village, Khar Sanday commune, Banteay Srei district, Siem Reap province
Voice Senders: Adult
Gender of “Voice Senders”: Female
Occupation Type of “Voice Senders”: Agriculture
Keywords: Water Scarcity, drought

Title: Water Scarcity in the Dry Season
At present, Khnar village has limited wells for clean water. We did not have big problem in fetching water during wet season, but we had water shortage during dry season, particularly during the last dry season. We had to wake up early to collect water from the wells for drinking, “who come first, collect water first”. Unfortunately, those wells yielded limited water and got dry quickly, so some time we had argument with each other because of collecting water. Furthermore, we did not have opportunity to grow vegetable during the dry season for increasing incomes.

SR3
Date of collection of “Water Voice” * 22 October 2002
Region and country where you collected “Water Voice” * Southeast Asia, CAMBODIA * Prei village, Khnar Sanday commune, Banteay Srei district, Siem Reap province
Voice Senders: Adult
Gender of “Voice Senders”: Female
Occupation Type of “Voice Senders”: Agriculture
Keywords: Water and poverty
Title: Water Access and Poverty

I am very poor farmer living in Prei village. In the village many people have their own wells for clean water, but I did not have it. In the wet season, I use water from the rice field around my house, as you see, for washing and cooking, so I can say I have enough water in the wet season, I have no problem with it. I could not think about the water quality, because I used to use it for a long time, what I need for today and tomorrow is food. This is a voice from a very poor woman.

SR4
Date of collection of “Water Voice” * 22 October 2002
Region and country where you collected “Water Voice” * Southeast Asia, CAMBODIA * Prei village, Khnar Sanday commune, Banteay Srei district, Siem Reap province
Voice Senders: Adult
Gender of “Voice Senders: Female
Occupation Type of “Voice Senders”: Agriculture
Keywords: Drought

Title: Drought Leads to Food Shortage

Traditionally, when we had serious drought, we hold a ceremony to pray for rainfall and for an abundant harvest. Last May, our villagers had to pray twice, first time in the village and second at the stream. This year, we faced a serious drought that we never had before, people could not do any thing against the natural disaster except praying. However, praying did not help the farmers, many rice fields has been dried and most rice seedlings died. With no hope from rice cultivation and to rescue the family form starvation, a lot of poor villagers went into the forest to collect wild potatoes for consuming and cut down the trees to produce fire wood and charcoal for selling. We did not know how could we live from now on till next planting season.

SR5
Date of collection of “Water Voice” * 22 October 2002
Region and country where you collected “Water Voice” * Southeast Asia, CAMBODIA * Khnar Sanday commune, Banteay Srei district, Siem Reap province
Voice Senders: Elderly
Gender of “Voice Senders: Male
Occupation Type of “Voice Senders”: Agriculture
Keywords: Drought, Irrigation

Title: Farmers Need Irrigation System

All farmers who are living in Khnar Sanday Commune have suffered from serious drought this year. In this area farmers can grow only one rice crop per year and depend on rainwater. “This year we have a serious drought that we did not experience before. We were lacked of water and most of the wells in the village dried up. The suitable time for growing wet season rice has past, and only a few rice fields were cultivated. Now we have enough water, but it is too late for us to grow rice. We are concerning with food shortage, and do not want to see this problem again in the next
growing season. We need irrigation system and reservoir for this area, also we request the government and NGOs to help building the irrigation system for us.” This is a voice of an eldest farmer, Chan Lay.

SR6
Date of collection of “Water Voice” * 22 October 2002
Region and country where you collected “Water Voice” * Southeast Asia, CAMBODIA * Toul Kralanh, Khnar Sanday commune, Banteay Srei district, Siem Reap province
Voice Senders: Elderly
Gender of “Voice Senders: Male
Occupation Type of “Voice Senders”: Carpenter
Key words: Water and health, drought

Title: We Need Clean Water
Many people in Toul Kralanh village own wells and clean water tubes except a place where my neighbor and I are living. We are suffering from shortage of clean water for daily use. During the raining season, all wells contain stinking water that can affect our health and we afraid to use it, and during dry season we lack of water. In the whole dry season we collect water from Banteay Srei Stream, which is located more than 1 km from our home place. The stream’s water is muddy which require us to use “Sachou” to make it clear. On the other hand, it contains malaria element that can affect our health from day to day. We are poor people, we are not able to drill clean water tube-well. Many water surveyors came to interview and promised to support us; we are waiting for them for many years, but until now we are still struggling with this problem. This is a voice of a 65 years old carpenter.

SR7
Date of collection of “Water Voice” * 22 October 2002
Region and country where you collected “Water Voice” * Southeast Asia, CAMBODIA * Phnom Touch village, Ta An commune, Kralanh district, Siem Reap province
Voice Senders: Adult
Gender of “Voice Senders: Female
Occupation Type of “Voice Senders”: Public Officer
Key words: Water and health, Water scarcity

Title: We Need Clean Water
My name is Ms San Sarun, 19 years, I would like to inform the World Water Forum on issues related to water in my village as following “ My family is living in Phnom Touch village where there are many problems with the water. I do not know from when we have had this problem, but from my child age to date I have seen the same problem. During dry season, we suffer water shortage especially in April because my village has only two open wells and the river stream is too far. We could carry poor quality of water only three times in the whole morning from the stream to our house. We need to save the water while using it. During the wet season everywhere is flooded including our open wells so we use flooded water in the rice field. You can imagine how poor is the quality of this water. If this problem is solved we will be very happy.
SR8
Date of collection of “Water Voice” * 22 October 2002
Region and country where you collected “Water Voice” * Southeast Asia, CAMBODIA * Sras Srong Tbong village, Nokor Thum commune, Siem Reap district, Siem Reap province
Voice Senders: Adult
Gender of “Voice Senders”: Male
Occupation Type of “Voice Senders”: Public Officer
Key words: Water and health, drought

**Title: Water Quality and Health**
We have lived in Sras Srong Tbong village for a long time. We use water from the wells in the village, its quality is very poor, because it contains iron element that affects the human health. Many more tube-wells have been drilled but the water quality is the same. The villagers have no choice, so they are still using this water. They do not know what affect this water can produce, and how bad it will harm to their health in the future.

SR9
Date of collection of “Water Voice” * 22 October 2002
Region and country where you collected “Water Voice” * Southeast Asia, CAMBODIA * Chong Khnies village/commune, Siem Reap district, Siem Reap province
Voice Senders: Adult
Gender of “Voice Senders”: Female
Occupation Type of “Voice Senders”: House worker
Key words: Water and health, water and poverty, floods

**Title: Flood Impact on Floating Village**
We are living in Chong Khnies village near Tonle Sap Lake where flooding occurs every year since long time ago. People in this village can live on dry land for 3 months only during a year time, the rest (June to March) some live on the water and some resettled their shelter along the dike of the dam. The resettlement depends on the water level of the Tonle Sap Lake. They have to spend a lot of time to move their shelters back and ford from the village to the dam. The reason is that they do not want to live far away from the lake because they are fishermen and most of daily activities are at the lake; and their livelihood mainly depends on natural resources in Tonle Sap Lake.

SR10
Date of collection of “Water Voice” * 22 October 2002
Region and country where you collected “Water Voice” * Southeast Asia, CAMBODIA * Chong Khnies village/commune, Siem Reap district, Siem Reap province
Voice Senders: Adult
Gender of “Voice Senders”: Female
Occupation Type of “Voice Senders”: House worker
Key words: Water and health, water and poverty, sanitation

**Title: Water and Sanitation at the Floating Village**
People who are living in Chong Khnies commune always suffer from flooding every year since long time ago. As most of the time they live in the lake or along the dam, during flooding season they release all the wastes into water. Most villagers are very poor, so they have no access to clean drinking water. Some could afford to buy...
clean water from the main land for drinking, and the price is about US$0.125 per 30 liters. They use the flooded water for washing and bathing. There are some wells and water-tubes in the village, but they could not use them because the water is sour and stinking.

SR11
Date of collection of “Water Voice”: 30 January 2003
Country/Region/Area: *Southeast Asia Cambodia * Thnal Bandaoy village, Preak Dak commune, Banteay Srei district, Siem Reap province
Voice Sender’s Age:   Adult
Voice Sender’s Gender:   Male
Voice Sender’s Occupation:   Public Officer
Keywords:     River/River Basin Management

Title: Illegal Sand Collection is Leading to Riverbank Erosion
Stung Siem Reap is one of the historical rivers in Siem Reap province that is facing illegal sand collection in this river. This activity is leading to a serious riverbank erosion and the river will be shallower from time to time. According to the officer of Apsara Authority, currently in Krang Kroch area there are illegal sand collection anarchically. The illegal activity is affecting protected area of Angkor Temple. The condition of the river will be changed like other rivers, if we do not stop or manage the worst situation.

SR12
Date of collection of “Water Voice” * 17 December 2002
Region and country: CAMBODIA* Southeast Asia* Siem Reap City
Who is “Voice Senders”?:   Adult
Gender of “Voice Senders”:   Male
Occupation Type of “Voice Senders”:   Public officer
Key words: Water Supply System, Ground water, Pollution, Private Sector

Title: Increasing Water Demand in Tourist City
There are two concerns from tourist growth and population increase in Siem Reap City during the last few years:

1. Not enough water to satisfy growth in water demand: water from 30 meters up cannot be used. The water from the river is polluted, so the only way to solve this problem is to use water from Baray water reservoir and Tonle Sap lake.

2. Increase waste in the city: This is affecting the ground water and Siem Reap river that passes the city. Hotels and guesthouse for tourists are boosting, which means increasing water demand, and more wastewater produced. There is no master plan for sewage system in this city. It is hard to solve this problem. According to the provincial authority, new city with adequate master plan for water management may be established in the future.

SR13
Date of collection of “Water Voice” * 03 January 2003
Region and country: * Southeast Asia, CAMBODIA * Siem Reap Town
Who is “Voice Senders”?:   Adult
Gender of “Voice Senders”:   Male
Occupation Type of “Voice Senders”?:   Public Officer
Key words: Pollution
**Title: Increasing Wastewater Pollution in Siem Reap City**

In the last few years, the increase of tourists in the Siem Reap City led to increasing hotels and guesthouses building. Currently, only a few luxury hotels have their own wastewater treatment facilities even though the government authority has pressed all hotels to treat their own wastewater. One of the government officers said “I smell wastewater sometime in this town. The drainage systems in Siem Reap are not good enough, and I'm concerned that the wastewater could flood Siem Reap town or get into the hotel’s rooms if no action is taken”. To solve this problem, The Ministry of Tourism should urge the local authorities to force hotel owners to build private wastewater treatment facilities to cut down pollution.

**SR14**

**Date of collection of “Water Voice”** 03 January 2003

**Region and country:** Southeast Asia, CAMBODIA, Siem Reap Town

**Who is “Voice Senders”?** Adult

**Gender of “Voice Senders”** Male

**Occupation Type of “Voice Senders”**: Researcher

**Key words:** Ground water

**Title: The Increasing of Ground Water Demand in Siem Reap Town**

The rapid development and the increasing of population have also hurt the water supply in Siem Reap town in the last few years. One of researchers said that many hotels in the city built large wells and pump water from underground water sources- it is potential danger if the underground aquifers under the Angkor Wat temples collapse. He is very concerned about the water resources that have been taken by hotels in Siem Reap.
XX. STUNG TRENG PROVINCE

ST1
Date of collection of “Water Voice”* 11 July 2002
Region and country where you collected “Water Voice”
* Southeast Asia, CAMBODIA* Se San River, Stung Treng and Ratanakiri province
Voice Senders: Adult
Gender of “Voice Senders:” Male
Occupation Type of “Voice Senders”: Public Officer, Agriculture
Key words: Dams, Transboundary Water Issues

Title: Dam and Transboundary Water Issues
The construction of the Yali Fall dam in Vietnam began in 1993, was blamed for 32 flooding deaths in Ratanakiri (Cambodia) in its first year of operation but the problem has been solved by Vietnamese officials notifying Cambodia of coming water surges.

But a study produced by government and NGOs earlier this year traced the dam to a continuing pattern of devastating flooding that has severely damaged rice and vegetable crops in all the villages further down the river in Stung Treng province. The study found, irregular water flow has made the water cloudy, hurting wildlife and inducing heath effects such as eye irritation and stomach problems. Most of the 30,000 residents living along the river in Stung Treng and more than 20,000 people in 59 villages have been affected by this dam.

ST2
Date of collection of “Water Voice”* 10 August 2002
Region and country where you collected “Water Voice”* Southeast Asia, CAMBODIA* Ba Daeum village, Samkhuoy commune, Sesan district, Stung Treng province
Voice Senders: Adult
Gender of “Voice Senders:” Male
Occupation Type of “Voice Senders”: Agriculture
Key words: Floods

Title: Floods
Long time ago, in our village we had flood once in about 10-15 years. But in the last few years flood occurs during the wet season every year, and we have been suffering from it. Our village is located along the Sesan River, which is connected to a lot of small streams. Some time we did not know about the forthcoming floods before time. Flood destroyed our rice and other crops, houses and livestock. We are farmers and lacked of education; our rice cultivation depends on rainfall and traditional planting time. If the flood comes we lost our crops and we do not know how to control this disaster.

ST3
Date of collection of “Water Voice”* 10 August 2002
Region and country where you collected “Water Voice”* Southeast Asia, CAMBODIA* Seasan village, Kampun commune, Sesan district, Stung Treng province
Voice Senders: Elderly
Gender of “Voice Senders:” Male,
Occupation Type of “Voice Senders”: Agriculture,
Key words: Floods
Title: Floods
We are villagers who live in the remote area along the Sesan River. In the last few years we always face with flood during the wet season, and in some years we had flood three times in a year. These floods caused severe damage to the property, crops, livestock and human health.

The problem of flood may due to the lowland and many water streams of the river. At the same time, there is heavy rainfall in this area. Our villagers are very vulnerable to the flood impacts. Our livelihood depends on farming, and flood in the last few years is leading our villagers to a severe food shortage.

ST4
Date of collection of “Water Voice”* 10 August 2002
Region and country where you collected “Water Voice” * Southeast Asia, CAMBODIA * Kbal Romeas village/ commune, Sesan district, Stung Treng province
Voice Senders: Elderly
Gender of “Voice Senders: Male,
Occupation Type of “Voice Senders”: Agriculture,
Key words: Floods

Title: Floods
We are living in Kbal Romeas, Seasan district, along the Sesan River. We have suffered a lot from frequent flood that occurred in the last few years. In the last three years, we always face with flood during the wet season, which caused severe damage to crop production, property, livestock and human health. The last flooding was between September and October and standing about a month. Then it destroyed the rice crops and we could not harvest any crop from the lowland fields.

The problem is that the village is located very close to the river and connected to many streams, at the same time the water rising up rapidly from upstream, and there was heavy rainfall in this area. The impact of flood in the last few years is leading our villagers to a severe food shortage.

ST5
Date of collection of “Water Voice”* 10 August 2002
Region and country where you collected “Water Voice” * Southeast Asia, CAMBODIA * Krabei Chrum village, Kbal Romeas commune, Sesan district, Stung Treng province
Voice Senders: Elderly
Gender of “Voice Senders: Female,
Occupation Type of “Voice Senders”: Agriculture,
Key words: Floods

Title: Floods
We are living in Krabei Chrum, Seasan district, along the Sesan River. We have suffered a lot from frequent flooding that has occurred in the last few years. This is more of geographical problem, because the village is located very close to the river and has many water streams, and due to the rapid rising of water from upstream and heavy rainfall in this area. Particularly, in the last three years we always face with flood during the wet season, which caused severe damage to rice and vegetable crops, property, livestock and human health.

These impacts lead to a severe food shortage in our villagers. Many villagers are leaving their lowland rice fields and destroying the forest in the high land to create new agricultural land that will be safe from the annual flooding. Some villagers are going to hunt wild animals for selling to buy their daily food.
ST6
Date of collection of “Water Voice”* 10 August 2002
Region and country where you collected “Water Voice” * Southeast Asia, CAMBODIA * Tadong Tadam village, Srah russei commune, Stung Treng district, Stung Treng province
Voice Senders: Elderly
Gender of “Voice Senders: Female,
Occupation Type of “Voice Senders”: Agriculture,
Key words: Floods, Water scarcity

Title: Floods and Water Scarcity
We are living in Tadong Tadam village, Stung Treng district, and have suffered from frequent flooding in the last few years. Last year, the flood happened three times during the wet season, and caused severe damage to rice and vegetable crops, livestock and human health. Furthermore, we were lacked of water for domestic use during the dry season because the river water is about 3 km far from our village and we do not have water well.

We would like to request the government or NGOs to dig some wells for clean water for our village.

ST7
Date of collection of “Water Voice”* 10 August 2002
Region and country where you collected “Water Voice” * Southeast Asia, CAMBODIA * Tadong Tadam village, Srah russei commune, Stung Treng district, Stung Treng province
Voice Senders: Adult
Gender of “Voice Senders: Male,
Occupation Type of “Voice Senders”: Fishing
Key words: Floods, Pollution

Title: Floods and Water Pollution
We are fishers living in Ta Dong Ta Dam village, Stung Treng district. We have suffered from frequent flooding that we are facing in the last few years. In year 2000, we saw a lot of large fish (Trey Krabei) deaths in the Siem Pang River. If compared to the past time, about 10 years ago, we had more fishes than now. Up to date the number of fish has decreased remarkably. These problems may come from the rapid population growth and water pollution from the Yali dam.

ST8
Date of collection of “Water Voice”* 10 August 2002
Region and country where you collected “Water Voice” * Southeast Asia, CAMBODIA * Kang Memay village, Preah Bat commune, Stung Treng district, Stung Treng province
Voice Senders: Adult
Gender of “Voice Senders: Male,
Occupation Type of “Voice Senders”: Agriculture
Key words: Floods

Title: Floods and Food Shortage
We are farmers living in Kang Memay village, Stung Treng district. We have suffered a lot from frequent flooding in the last three years. Our village is located in the lowland along the Mekong River that is easily impacted by flooding. Long time ago we used to have one flood within a period of about 5 to 6 years normally. Floods destroyed agricultural crops especially rice, houses, livestock and human heath. The impact of frequent floods is leading villagers to face food shortage every year in this area. Many farmers have moved their agricultural field to the highland natural forest - they have cleared the land to create new agricultural fields.
Some villagers are going to the forest for collecting sub-forest products, hunting and doing illegal deforestation to generate income for buying their daily foods.

ST9
Date of collection of “Water Voice”* 10 August 2002
Region and country where you collected “Water Voice” * Southeast Asia, CAMBODIA * Kang Dey Sa village, Preah Bat commune, Stung Treng district, Stung Treng province
Voice Senders: Adult
Gender of “Voice Senders:” Male,
Occupation Type of “Voice Senders”: Major of Village
Key words: Floods

Title: Floods and Riverbank Erosion

We are villagers who are living in Kang Dey Sa village, Stung Treng district. Our village is located along the Mekong River, so it is easily affected by flood. The problem can be due to the rapid rising of the river, very fast flow, storm with big waves; and navigation of heavy loading ship and speed passenger-ship in the river.

We have suffered badly from severe flooding and riverbank erosion. In the last 10 years we are facing continuous riverbank erosion that has destroyed 3 meters of main land a year. The riverbank erosion and flood continuously cause severe damage to the rural road, houses, agricultural production and soil fertility, and consequently leads to food shortage.

ST10
Date of collection of “Water Voice”* 10 August 2002
Region and country where you collected “Water Voice” * Southeast Asia, CAMBODIA * Koh Samperay village/commune, Siem Bouk district, Stung Treng province
Voice Senders: Adult
Gender of “Voice Senders:” Male,
Occupation Type of “Voice Senders”: Fishing
Key words: Floods, Ecosystem, Irrigation

Title: Floods and Irrigation

Long time ago, the Mekong River part at Siem Bok district had a lot of small and large fishes living in deep water. But in the last ten years the number of fish has decreased remarkably, and now it is hard to catch large fish in the river. Some problems that is leading to decrease of fish can be:
- Population growth and increasing number of fishermen in the province;
- water quality and irregular water flow;
- frequency of flooding and riverbank erosion that leads to shallower river from year to year;
- increasing of sand in the river in this area;
- changing of river ecosystem; and
- illegal use of modern fishing equipment.
ST11
Date of collection of “Water Voice”* 10 August 2002
Region and country where you collected “Water Voice” * Southeast Asia, CAMBODIA * Koh Samperay
government/commune, Siem Bouk district, Stung Treng province
Voice Senders: Adult
Gender of “Voice Senders: Female,
Occupation Type of “Voice Senders”: Agriculture
Key words: Floods, Irrigation

Title: Floods and Irrigation
Our village is located along the Mekong River, it is very exposed to the direct impact of annual flooding during
the wet season. At the same time our rice field is situated not very far from the river. Usually, if we have floods
from the Mekong River, we have very little rainfall. In the last three years, the floods destroyed our agricultural
crops especially rice crop leading to a severe food shortage. This year, up to date we are planting our rice
seedlings on the dry soil in the paddy fields and waiting for rainfall. Oppositely, the Mekong River is full of
water but we cannot get water for irrigation.

The problem is that we are lacked of irrigation system, skills and knowledge on how to store water for
agricultural purpose. We are calling for help from the government to build irrigation system for this area. This is
one of the solutions to mitigate poverty from the poor villagers.

ST12
Date of collection of “Water Voice”* 10 August 2002
Region and country where you collected “Water Voice” * Southeast Asia, CAMBODIA * Koh Preah
government/commune, Siem Bouk district, Stung Treng province
Voice Senders: Adult
Gender of “Voice Senders: Female,
Occupation Type of “Voice Senders”: Agriculture
Key words: Floods, Water and Poverty

Title: Flood, Water Access For Agriculture And Poverty
Our village is located in the island of the Mekong River, so is very exposed to annual flooding during the wet
season. Usually, the Mekong River is flooded between September and October. We have one flood within six to
seven years period. In the last three years, we had continuous floods that destroyed our agricultural crops
especially rice crop, leading villagers to have a severe food shortage and increasing poverty.

After flooding, the villagers begun to plant their rice crop and vegetable to support their livelihood, but in that
time we did not have enough water, and the soil fertility dropped. This problem occurred, because the river
water is very far from the field (due to increasing sand in the river) and flood washed out the soil nutrients from
the rice field. Some villagers go fishing but in the river there are scarce fish also, they could not catch more fish
to sell for buying their food.

ST13
Date of collection of “Water Voice”* 10 August 2002
Region and country where you collected “Water Voice” * Southeast Asia, CAMBODIA * Siem Bok
government/commune, Siem Bok district, Stung Treng province
Voice Senders: Adult
Gender of “Voice Senders: Male,
Occupation Type of “Voice Senders”: Agriculture
Key words: Floods
Title: Flood and Riverbank Erosion
Siem Bok commune is one of the seven communes in Siem Bok district, Stung Treng province that is located along the Mekong River. All villagers have access to water from the Mekong River and rainfall for domestic use and agriculture purpose. In the last few years, we are facing severe flooding frequently that destroyed our rice production and vegetable crops, human health, and livestock. At the same time, it is creating sedimentation and riverbank erosion - about 3 to 5 meters of riverbank collapsed into the river every year. The above problem is due to the frequent floods, irregular and strong water flow, the navigation of heavy ship near the riverbank that creates big and strong waves.

ST14
Date of collection of “Water Voice”* 10 August 2002
Region and country where you collected “Water Voice” * Southeast Asia, CAMBODIA * Srae Sranok village, Kbal Romeas commune, Sesan district, Stung Treng province
Voice Senders: Elderly
Gender of “Voice Senders: Male
Occupation Type of “Voice Senders”: Agriculture
Key words: Floods, dams

Title: Dam and Hurting People
We are people living along and near the Seasan River who have suffered badly from the effect of Yali Falls dam in its first year operation in 1996. The irregular and increasing rapid water flow has made the water cloudy, hurting wildlife, fish and effecting human health when has drank this river water.

Recently, we heard about new Seasan 3 and Seasan 4 dams, which will be constructed on the Seasan River in Vietnam side. We are very afraid about this news. One dam (Yali dam) has caused a lot of problems for us already; I lost my paddy field, some animals and the number of fish in the river has decreased remarkably that we could not catch any more. What will be the problems when there will be two more? What do they want or they want us to die?

ST15
Date of collection of “Water Voice”* 7 December 2002
Region and country where you collected “Water Voice” * Southeast Asia, CAMBODIA * Stung Treng province
Voice Senders: Adult
Gender of “Voice Senders: Male
Occupation Type of “Voice Senders”: Public Officer
Key words: Ecosystem

Title: Trey Pacii (Mekongina erythospila), Seldom Fish Species which Needs to be Conserved
A kind of fresh water fish species called Pacii (Mekongina erythospila) is one of the high value fish in the market and difficult to find and catch them. The habitat of this species is in the hole of rocks with clear and cold deep water of the Sre Pok, Se San and Se Kong rivers. Every year this fish is appeared and can be caught for about 3 months during cool season between November and end of January only. During this time they move from their habitats to the junction of the Mekong and after having met muddy water they move back.
But it is very regretful that the yield of this fish species is decreased from year to year. The important factor is leading to decrease of this fish population is due to changes of water flow and water quality which are impacts from Yali hydropower in Vietnam site.

This seldom fish species should be conserved and protected for our next generation.
XXI. SVAY RIENG PROVINCE

SVR1
Date of collection of “Water Voice” * 08 November 2002
Region and country where you collected “Water Voice” * Southeast Asia, CAMBODIA * Taya village, Thlok commune, Svay Chrum district, Svay Rieng province
Voice Senders: Adult
Gender of “Voice Senders:” Male
Occupation Type of “Voice Senders”: Agriculture
Key words: Ecosystem

Title: Changing Ecosystem in the River Stream
In the past time Preak Pou river stream, which is located in Thlok commune had a lot of water during wet and dry season. In that time, the river stream was deep and rich of biodiversity such as fishes and aquatic animals. In that river stream, a fisherman could catch about 7 to 8 kg of fishes per day with their traditional fishing tools. The farmers had enough water to irrigate their dry season rice, and on the other hand, people could use the river stream for navigation.

But everything is changing in the last few years. The people are difficult to find and catch fishes from this river and the water from the river is not enough any more to irrigate dry season rice in this area. This problem is generated from illegal fishing with prohibited fishing tools and fishing in the egg laying time. Another problem comes from the riverbank erosion that is leading the river to be shallower from time to time.

SVR2
Date of collection of “Water Voice” * 08 November 2002
Region and country where you collected “Water Voice” * Southeast Asia, CAMBODIA * Koy Trabaek village/commune, Svay Rieng district, Svay Rieng province
Voice Senders: Elderly
Gender of “Voice Senders:” Male
Occupation Type of “Voice Senders”: Agriculture
Key words: Rivers/River basin Management, Ecosystem

Title: Lack of River Stream Management and Dry Season Rice
Long time ago, farmers who are living in Koy Trabaek commune had a lot of water, they got it from the Preak Wat Koh river stream to irrigate dry season rice. In that time, they had no problem with water because the river stream had enough water for dry season cultivation and for other purposes.

In the last few years, the river stream has dried during dry season so the farmers could not get more water to cultivate their rice crop. The problem may come from the increasing of water demand because of increasing dry season farming. Recently, the riverbank erosion from the navigation and soil sedimentation from upstream, are leading the river-stream shallower, especially there is lack of river basin management.
**SVR3**

**Date of collection of “Water Voice”**  *08 November 2002*

**Region and country where you collected “Water Voice”**  *Southeast Asia, CAMBODIA*  *Tarang Ball village, Koy Trabaek commune, Svay Rieng district, Svay Rieng province*

**Voice Senders:**  Elderly

**Gender of “Voice Senders:**  Male

**Occupation Type of “Voice Senders”:**  Agriculture

**Key words:**  Floods

**Title: Floods Increase Poverty**

Before and some years after 1979, most villagers who are living in Tarang Ball village could cultivate two rice crops a year, the rain-fed rice based on rainfall and the dry season rice based on water from the Preak Koh canal. In that time, they had floods but it did not reach the village, and it flooded only a few rice fields that are located around the small lake and it lasted for about 4 or 5 days only.

From year 2000 up to date, the villagers have suffered from serious floods which lasts about 20 –30 days every year. They could not cultivate wet season rice and other crops to support their families. During the flooding time some villagers have moved to settle in the Wat Koh pagoda and some in Koh Mean hill because those are places with security. Every year floods are increasing poverty and food shortage to the people in this area.

**SVR4**

**Date of collection of “Water Voice”**  *08 November 2002*

**Region and country where you collected “Water Voice”**  *Southeast Asia, CAMBODIA*  *Ta Yea village, Thlok commune, Svay Chrum district, Svay Rieng province*

**Voice Senders:**  Adult

**Gender of “Voice Senders:**  Female

**Occupation Type of “Voice Senders”:**  Agriculture

**Key words:**  Floods

**Title: Floods Destroyed Wet Season Rice**

Many years ago, most villagers who are living in Tayea village could cultivate rice two rice crops a year, the rain-fed rice crop which is rain-fed rice and the dry season rice by using water from the Preak Thom canal for irrigation. In that time they could produced more rice crop than they needed to support their families and the surplus could be sold to other areas.

From year 2000 to 2002 the villagers have suffered from serious flooding about 15 –20 days every year. Before flooding, some villagers already had transplanted their rice seedlings in the rice fields near the Preak Thom canal, but after that the floods have destroyed all rice seedlings. The floods come from the Wai Ko River and Preak Thom canal. During the flooding time, some villagers moved to find additional jobs in the cities or everywhere because they could not cultivate rice or other crops and they need food to survive.

**SVR5**

**Date of collection of “Water Voice”**  *08 November 2002*

**Region and country where you collected “Water Voice”**  *Southeast Asia, CAMBODIA*  *Ba Krong village, Svay Chek commune, Rumduol district, Svay Rieng province*

**Voice Senders:**  Adult

**Gender of “Voice Senders:**  Female

**Occupation Type of “Voice Senders”:**  Agriculture

**Key words:**  Drought
Title: Drought Destroyed Wet Season Rice

From many years ago, farmers who are living in Ba Krong village could cultivate wet season rice crop by depending on the rainfall, and dry season rice using water from the Preak Pou river. In that time they could produce food more than they needed to support their families.

From year 2001 to 2002, especially this year the villagers have suffered from serious drought during the wet season that lead to water shortage in rain-fed farming. Last year we faced drought, but we cultivated rice crop in some paddy fields and could harvest low yield. But this year, there was extreme drought that we have never met. From the beginning of wet season we prepared the nurseries and spread rice seeds for rice seedling. We use local rice varieties, normally if the rice seedling is about 2 months, it would be uprooted for transplanting, and it could provide high yield. But this year due to lack of water, we transplanted the 5 months rice seedlings. A week after transplanting the rice seedlings flowered, this means that the rice crop could provide us the lowest yield. We are hopeless to harvest them.

SVR6
Date of collection of “Water Voice” * 07 November 2002
Region and country where you collected “Water Voice” * Southeast Asia, CAMBODIA* Toul Angkob village, Sambour commune, Svay Teab district, Svay Rieng province
Voice Senders: Adult
Gender of “Voice Senders:” Female
Occupation Type of “Voice Senders”: Agriculture
Key words: Droughts, Irrigation

Title: Changing of Water Canal is Impacted on Rice Production

There is a water canal named Dei Preak Sambour, which is located in the Toul Angkob village. About twenty years ago the canal had a lot of water to irrigate dry season rice because it contained about 3 m deep of water during the dry season. But in the last ten years, during the dry season there was only 0.5 m deep or in some years it dried out because of the riverbank erosion and the increasing of water demand to irrigate dry season rice. The changing of the river from deep to shallower is impacting seriously for dry season rice in this area, for instance this year we have suffered the severest drought and we did not have any water to irrigate our rice and other agricultural crops. To mitigate the impact for dry season rice some farmers use ground water by drilling water tubes near their fields to get water for irrigation.

SVR7
Date of collection of “Water Voice” * 07 November 2002
Region and country where you collected “Water Voice” * Southeast Asia, CAMBODIA* Thlok commune, Svay Chrum district, Svay Rieng province
Voice Senders: Adult
Gender of “Voice Senders:” Male
Occupation Type of “Voice Senders”: Major of village
Key words: Droughts, Climate Change
Title: Changing of Climate Impacts on Rice Production
This year all farmers who are living in Thlok commune have suffered from a serious drought that is impacting our rain-fed rice production since the beginning of wet season. In the whole commune the farmers could cultivate about 7 ha of rice crop only, so we will face with a serious food shortage. We will not have any more water sources to irrigate our rice crop because the ponds and a water canal have been dried. We just had water during the flowering stage, so it is too late to cultivate local rice.

Before, we could say that we had 3 seasons in a year: wet, "cold" and dry season but now we have only two irregular seasons wet and dry. These two seasons have been mixed up together, some times it was raining in the dry season and oppositely it was drying in the wet season. This may be generated from the changing of climate.

SVR8
Date of collection of “Water Voice” * 07 November 2002
Region and country where you collected “Water Voice” * Southeast Asia, CAMBODIA* Svay Toea village/commune, Kampong Rou district, Svay Rieng province
Voice Senders: Elderly
Gender of “Voice Senders”: Female
Occupation Type of “Voice Senders”: Agriculture
Key words: Droughts, other

Title: Praying for Rain
In Svay Toea village, where people used to suffer from a water shortage, there is a festival in April or May every year to pray for rain and for an abundant harvest. The festival is celebrated for one day and one night. In the early morning they prepare the praying tools in a place where they believe that there is a powerful tutelary spirit that is living there and after that they pray to it for a good harvest. In the evening of the same day, they invite Buddhist monks to preach Buddhist advice to the prayers. Finally, next day the morning the monks are invited again to help transferring the foods offered by villagers to the spirit and ancestors. This festival is a long-standing one, because people love and care for the tradition in this area.

SVR9
Date of collection of “Water Voice” * 07 November 2002
Region and country: * Southeast Asia* CAMBODIA: * Roub Kou village, Prey Chhlak Commune , Svay Rieng district/ province
Who is “Voice Senders”? Elderly
Gender of “Voice Senders” Male
Occupation Type of “Voice Senders”: Agriculture
Key words: Floods, water and poverty

Title: Floods and Rice Farming
In the last three years, villagers of Roub Kou village have suffered from floods every year. During every flooding time, the flood lasted about 3 to 4 month, so the farmer could not plant any rice crop because flooding occurred during the rice cultivation period and in the village there is no canal to drain out the water. During flood, most of the men migrated out to find additional jobs in the cities such as worker or taxi driver (Motodop).

According to Mr. Ros Sophal, 63 said that flood is caused by the water regime of the Mekong River, particularly from a Vietnamese dam that has been built along the border of Cambodia.
Title: Drought and Rice Farming

Generally, rice production in Taya village is rainfed, therefore, only one crop per year during wet season can be cultivated. Rice fields of this village are located in higher land than Preak Takok stream, so they could not dig any canal to get water from this stream to irrigate their paddies unless pumping.

In the last few years, the villagers have suffered water shortage for drinking, especially water for agricultural purpose such rice production. This year, most of farmers could not cultivate rice on time because we met a serious drought. Only a few farmers have opportunity to get water from Preak Takok stream by pumping because those fields are located near this river.

During drought period, most of young women moved to Phnom Penh city to work in garment industries, some men do so too, to work as worker or Moto-taxi diver to earn money for living.

Title: Lacking of Clean Water

Generally, the villagers in this village have use surface water from open wells that are located about 500 meters from the village and Preak Sambour River for daily domestic use since long time ago. In that time, they could get clean fresh drinking water (without boiling) by digging well from 4 to 5 meters deep only. But in the last 10 years, some wells have run dry during dry season. To solve this problem, some villagers have used ground water by drilled tube wells that provided by organizations.

By using tube well’s water they have had health problem because those waters contain polluted substances such as calcareous, smelly and iron element even they have boiled it. In this case, some villagers decided to use water from Preak Sambour River again even it is not very clean but better than using ground water.
XXII. TAKEO PROVINCE

TK1
Date of collection of “Water Voice”* March 2002
Region and country where you collected “Water Voice” * Southeast Asia, CAMBODIA * Preak village, Bati
district, Takeo province
Voice Senders: Elderly
Gender of “Voice Senders: Male
Occupation Type of “Voice Senders”: Agriculture
Keywords: Water Scarcity, Drought, Ground water

Title: Water issues in Preak village Bati district
The water sources of the village are lake, ponds, waterpumps, wells and rainfall. However, we are facing many
issues, for examples:
- Lack of clean water supplies;
- Raining time is changing;
- lack of water for all use in summer;
- Ground water is going deeply more than 40 m;
- Water form the tube well is calcareous;
- Not enough water to irrigate dry season rice because sometime the lake water will be discharged for
  harvesting fishes from powerful people.

Our strategies to get water have been:
- digging ponds to store the water during the wet season;
- minimise water use;
- waiting for rainfall;
- build dams to save water for irrigated rice.

We need clean water supply and support to drill tube wells or dig the ponds.

TK2
Date of collection of “Water Voice”* 15 June 2002
Region and country where you collected “Water Voice” * Southeast Asia, CAMBODIA * Trapeang Lean
village, Khum Chambak, Bati district, Takeo province
Voice Senders: Elderly
Gender of “Voice Senders: Male
Occupation Type of “Voice Senders”: Agriculture
Keywords: Water Scarcity, Drought

Title: Water Scarcity and Drought
During the last summer, we seriously had a water shortage in our area. We spent more time and more hours a
day to collect water from Ang Seong pagoda. The pagoda with its two ponds, has one of the commune’s few
remaining ample supplies of water. People from neighboring communes also came down to the pagoda to fetch
the water. Luckily, Chambak commune passes the difficult time, thanks to a pond project funded by
Cambodian-American a few years ago, the pond was deep enough and can hold rainwater throughout the dry
season.
Title: Flood, Drought and Rainfed Farming

In the last few years, farmers in Takeo province have suffered severely from natural disaster (flood and drought). The northern part of the province is suffering from the flood and the southern part is suffering from the drought, so many hundred hectares of rainfed farming are damaging and some parts were completely destroyed.

Luckily, Takeo province has potential for dry season rice farming, because there are thousand hectares of dry season rice field and suitable condition. Thanks to the dry season rice, the farmers can cope with the loss harvest during the wet season and secure the food.

Title: Increasing Population Leads to Increasing Water Pollution

Many years up to 1999, the Tonlap Lake in Preas Bat Chuan Choum Commune, Kirivong District, Takeo Province had access to fresh water and was not polluted, because at that time the number of people who had the residential near the lake was small and they protected the water for using carefully. About 90% of the people in that time did not use pump-well.

Now, the number of households along the lake is increasing and the liquid waste from the market flows directly to the lake, and the lake's is getting polluted. So many of them try to have their own wells or pump-wells. The poor people who do not have their own wells, they still use the lake's water and are facing the health risks. Sometimes, they have to get the clean water from the pump-well that is far from their houses (0.6-1 km).
TK5
Date of collection of “Water Voice” * 15 September 2002
Region and country where you collected “Water Voice” * South East Asia, CAMBODIA * Kirivong district, Takeo province
Voice Senders: Adult
Gender of “Voice Senders:” Male
Occupation Type of “Voice Senders”: Fishing
Keywords: Lakes, Ecosystem

Title: Poor Family and Natural Resources of a Lake
Several years in the past, people who lived in Cheu Teal Pluos village, Prey Ampork Commune, Takeo Province depended on the Koh Cheung Dam Rey Lake which, had rich fish resources, and they can catch them without any difficulty. Within those years, the lake was full of water during both raining and dry seasons and they could get a lot of benefits from this lake. For example, they spent only one day for catching fish and selling all fish at the local market, they could support their family for about seven days. At present, people lost every thing that they had before, because the lake is shallower and doesn’t have enough water during the dry season. Even during the raining season they cannot catch as many fish as before. So now they are facing the difficulties and losing their incomes. When the ecosystem is changing, they decide to find additional job by sending their children to cut grass in the lake for selling to the people who have many cows. The reasons behind this are that the lakebed becomes shallower from time to time and the number of fishermen is increasing also.

TK6
Date of collection of “Water Voice” * 15 September 2002
Region and country where you collected “Water Voice” * South East Asia, CAMBODIA * Kirivong district, Takeo province
Voice Senders: Adult
Gender of “Voice Senders:” Male
Occupation Type of “Voice Senders”: House Worker
Keywords: Water and Health

Title: Water Users and Sand Trading
In Sla village, Ta Ou Commune that is located along the small river, many people are based on the agriculture and small business. They do not have many wells or pump-wells because they can use the water from the small river nearby their village. At the moment, people dig the sand from the river for sale, and this affects the water quality in the down stream of the river. Workers dig the sand from 6 to 8 hours during the daytime, so the water becomes very muddy. Mr. Chin Chorn, one of the villagers said that if we want clear water, we have to wait until the workers stop digging in this small river.

TK7
Date of collection of “Water Voice” * 16 September 2002
Region and country where you collected “Water Voice” * South East Asia, CAMBODIA * Kirivong district, Takeo province
Voice Senders: Elderly
Gender of “Voice Senders:” Male
Occupation Type of “Voice Senders”: Agriculture
Keywords: Irrigation
Title: Labor for Food
In the past, farmers did not face with shortages of water so they were happy with their rice production. At present, they always face with flood and water shortage for rice farming. For example, in the last three years they tried to grow rice and spent a lot of money for fertilizers, but serious flood destroyed their rice fields. This situation decreases their incentive to grow rice because they waste a lot of money and time for nothing.

TK8
Date of collection of “Water Voice” * 16 September 2002
Region and country where you collected “Water Voice” * South East Asia, CAMBODIA * Kirivong district, Takeo province
Voice Senders: Elderly
Gender of “Voice Senders”: Female
Occupation Type of “Voice Senders”: House Worker
Keywords: Gender

Title: Water and Gender
During 1983-1999, people in Trapang Preang Village, particularly women-headed households had difficulty with drinking water, because they had to spent a lot of time to obtain the water from the very far distance. In 2000, PRASAC provided fund to build four pump-wells in this village, the water problems have been solved.

TK9
Date of collection of “Water Voice” * 15 September 2002
Region and country where you collected “Water Voice” * South East Asia, CAMBODIA * Kirivong district, Takeo province
Voice Senders: Elderly
Gender of “Voice Senders”: Male
Occupation Type of “Voice Senders”: Major of Village
Keywords: River/Basin Management

Title: Degradation of Andong Tuor Reservoir
Andong Tuor reservoir is located near the mountains rank called Phnom Roveang and Bayang Kor and covers three villages Prey Ampork, Soben and Trapeang Preang. This reservoir is very big, looked like a lake and it does not connected with any canal. Water sources were from mountains and ground water. It had big capacity for storing the water whole year round and could supply water for 600 ha of rice farming during the raining season and 100 ha of dry season in the three villages, and for other crops and vegetables production along the hills near the reservoir. The ecosystem of the reservoir was very healthy and rich of fish and other biodiversities. Now, everything that used to have before such as water supply for agriculture, the healthy ecosystem, fish, etc. are not available like before, and it is a big concern, because the reservoir is shallower from day to day and there is no regulation or rules to protect it.

TK10
Date of collection of “Water Voice” * 16 September 2002
Region and country where you collected “Water Voice” * South East Asia, CAMBODIA * Kirivong district, Takeo province
Voice Senders: Elderly
Gender of “Voice Senders”: Male
Occupation Type of “Voice Senders”: Major of Village
Keywords: Ecosystem
Title: Degradation of Ton Luap Lake West Bank (Water Potential & Ecosystem)

Ton Luap Lake West Bank is located in Preash Bat Chuan Choum commune in Takeo province. In the past, this lake provided many benefits to the villagers, including water for domestic use and agriculture (2,500 ha of rice during raining season, and 1,500 ha during dry season), fish, and it was a resort in the area. Now the ecosystem of the lake has changed, the water level is lower and some portions have no water during the dry season. People cannot grow dry season rice, or catch fish so they are losing incomes and having difficulties with water for both domestic and agriculture purpose.

TK11

Date of collection of “Water Voice” * 16 September 2002

Region and country where you collected “Water Voice” * South East Asia, CAMBODIA * Kirivong district, Takeo province

Voice Senders: Elderly

Gender of “Voice Senders”: Male

Occupation Type of “Voice Senders”: Major of Village

Keywords: Other

Title: Praying Ceremony for Rainfall

This ceremony takes place when there is no rain for along time during the raining season. Elder persons take initiative and discuss with villagers to organise the ceremony. In Trapeang Preng Village, after having discussion, they started to gather their villagers at the pond nearby the rice field. During the ceremony, the offering materials such as monkey, flowers, incents and candles are necessary. The monkey is important in the procedure of the celebration called in Khmer as “Banchuan Sva”. A priest who represents the god is responsible for catching the monkey and soak it in the water for seven times. Then all people who attended the ceremony repeated the praying words of the priest, as following: “May the lord provides us rain and wishing us having good rice crop during the whole period of the year”. This year, the farmers were facing with serious drought, so they celebrated the rainfall ceremony one more time.

TK12

Date of collection of “Water Voice” * 16 September 2002

Region and country where you collected “Water Voice” * South East Asia, CAMBODIA * Takeo province

Voice Senders: Elderly

Gender of “Voice Senders”: Male

Occupation Type of “Voice Senders”: Major of village

Keywords: Irrigation

Title: Saline Water Can Cause Crisis

The rice fields in Prey Rom Deng Commune, Kirivong District, Takeo Province are now seriously affected by the salt water which is flowing from the canal of Vietnam. This event has happened in the last three years. For instance about 10 ha of the rice field cannot be grown to any crop, because the water level of the canal along the Vietnam border is higher than the water level in the canal of the field in Prey Rom Deng Commune. The farmers who have the rice field near those areas are very worry because the salt water is widespread into other lower rice fields. Moreover, they have lost the advantages of cultivation, fishing, soil quality and quantity from day to day. The farmers loose their income and they have to spend more time and more labors in their family to earn money by doing small business or sale their labor in the urban area. In summary, if the local authority and other stockholders do not address these problems, in the next 5 or 10 years they will meet the water crisis.
**Title: Ground Water**

In the past, many people who live in Dey Krahorm, Bour and Borpol villages in Prey Rom Deng commune, Kirivong district, Takeo province are happy with the growing works on their land, because they have enough water for watering their vegetables and other crops during the dry season and they had good markets for their products. In that time, their living conditions were very good because they could make good money from their farms. These good things now have changed, because the wells are dried, due to reduction of the water table. Although they excavate the mud out from the wells bed, but the problem is not solved.

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**Title: Flood and Poverty**

Pum Ead and Chher Teal Pluos villages have been affected by the flood since 1999 up to present time. Half part of the rice fields in these two villages are inundated every raining season so people who have the rice field in that area cannot grow rice. In the past, three rice crops per year can be grown in these fields, two in raining season and one in dry season. Nowadays only one crop can be grown in the dry season and sometimes even one crop is impossible, because the flood prolongs so long and the water receded very fast and the farmers could not have supplemented water for their rice crop. This leads many farmers in these two villages to migrate to the urban area to fine jobs or sell their labors to earn incomes for supporting their family.

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**Title: Head of District in Water Management**

If the Governor and District Head pay good attention in the management and protection of the lakes and river; there will be a sustainable use of natural resources by the people and healthy ecosystem, and the people will have enough water.
Title: Sedimentation of Ponlich Reservoir
Ponlich is located near the rice fields and Mountains and covered by two villages, Bour and Ang Run. This reservoir is very big and looked like a lake. It is connected with the canals and the water is from mountains and ground water sources. This reservoir has big potential for storing the water for whole year round and can provide water to irrigate about 500 ha rice fields in three villages during the raining and 60 ha during the dry season and fruit trees and vegetables along the hills that are located near by the reservoir. Furthermore, this reservoir is rich in ecosystem and fishes for the villagers' livelihood.

Unfortunately, everything used to have before such as water supply for agriculture fields, ecosystem, fish, etc. are losing and it is a big concern, because the reservoir becomes shallower from time to time and the local authority and people in the two villages are not taking care to protect or rehabilitate this reservoir.

Title: Drought Impacts on the Learning Process of Pupils in the Remote Area
Almost every year, this area has suffered from serious drought and water shortage. Farmers could not have good crop, this is leading to food shortage to support their families. To find additional income after agricultural work, most villagers have gone to work far away from their houses. The children are stayed at home to keep the houses and look after everything, and also collect the water for domestic use. So they have no time to go to school. A 12 years old boy said, “I am in Grade Two, I love studying and I want to study more and more. I do not want to work in agriculture, which depends on the climate like nowadays. My parents have gone to work outside the village, because of drought and I must stay at home to look after my young brother, therefore, I could not go to school”.

Title: Fishing Yield Down due to Decreasing of Inundated Forests
Angkor Borei and Borei Chulsa are districts in Takeo province that could catch a lot of fresh water lobsters every year to support the market’s demand. Compared to the last year’s catch, this year the lobster yield is down
that is leading to increase its price in the market. This year, it is not only decreased lobster yield, but also the fish yield is decreased too. The main reason for decreasing of lobster is decreasing of inundated forests. Inundated forests are fishes and lobsters habitats, which play important role in fish reproduction and growth. Furthermore, the changing of current climate and natural disaster may be additional factor that influences the decrease of fishing yield. Fishes or other aquatic animals will be extinct, if we do not protect their habitats especially the inundated forests. Thus, the local communities should strongly cooperate to prevent inundated forests for increasing fishing yield again.
### Summary Key Issues of Water Voice Collection

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